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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXI, No. 1

Section 1

April 1, 1941.

## SENATE VOTES BAN ON FOREIGN FOODS

From Washington, March 31, a New York Times dispatch says that, by a vote of 34 to 29, the Senate Monday reinstated in the Fifth Supplementary Defense Appropriations Bill a House prohibition against use of any of the funds for the purchase of foreign articles of food or clothing. The Senate Appropriations Committee had moved to strike out this House provision, just as it did successfully a similar one in the Navy Department appropriations bill. However, many Administration Senators were absent Monday because of speaking engagements at Jackson Day dinners and this brought the Administration defeat, according to Senator Barkley, majority leader.

## GROUP OPPOSES VIRGIN WOOL RULE

The New York Times, April 1, says that, opposing the proposed regulation setting up a "virgin wool" category in the tentative Federal Trade Commission rules for enforcement of the Wool Products Labeling Act, the National Association of Wool Manufacturers has filed a brief with the FTC urging serious consideration be given deletion of rule 19 creating this category. A hearing will be held by the commission on the rules in Washington Wednesday.

## BRITISH SAY FRENCH SHIP WAR GOODS TO NAZIS

From London, March 31, a New York Times dispatch says that facts and figures were provided by the ministry of economic warfare Monday to show that Hitler's forces were getting war goods under the guise of food "for starving France." British officials offered figures to show that bauxite, aluminum, magnesium and raw wool are being carried to unoccupied France as food and then shipped to Germany under the system of priorities in which vital war goods go first.

## FARM PRODUCTS CONTINUE RISE

From Chicago, March 31, the AP says that the farm commodities price picture is showing its brightest tinge since the fall of France. Many important agricultural products, revived by the hope that Europe's demand for food eventually will be met in some way, now are selling at around the highest levels since the collapse last May when the German armies swept into western Europe. Progress of farm legislation in Congress, with talk of higher commodity loans, also has been a factor.



Liverpool Cotton  
Exchange Closes

From Liverpool, England, March 31, the AP says that the Cotton Exchange closed Monday in a solemn ceremony to the strains of "God Save The King," sung by traders who crowded the floor. The exchange was closed on the idea that governmental control of cotton made speculation in futures virtually impossible. Monday's final prices for all positions in the futures market were up 25 points, the maximum daily permissible limit, on trade calling and covering to settle contracts.

Surplus Food  
Purchases Up

The USDA today announced the purchase of approximately \$10,000,000 worth of surplus food commodities during the period March 15 through March 31. The supplies can be used for direct distribution through State welfare departments to public aid families and for use in free school lunches; to meet requests from the Red Cross for shipment to war refugee areas; or for sale to Britain under the provisions of the Lend-Lease Act. "Apparently the extent of British purchases and prospective British purchases have been overestimated, and this over-estimation has resulted in unwarranted speculative activity in a few commodities," Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard said. Total prospective British purchases of food do not seem likely to exceed three to four percent of the Nation's total food bill.

Holmes To Manage  
Kansas City  
FCIC Office

Appointment of Charles B. Holmes, Loretto, Nebr., as manager of the Kansas City, Mo., branch office of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, effective April 1, was announced today by Leroy K. Smith, general manager. Mr. Holmes will succeed Arthur Cummings. Mr. Cummings has been named special assistant to the director of the Western Division of the AAA. In his new capacity, Mr. Cummings will be the personal representative in the field of N. E. Dodd, director of the Western Division, AAA.

Soybean Standards  
To Be Revised

A proposed revision of the official grain standards of the U. S. for soybeans was announced today by C. W. Kitchen, Chief of the Agricultural Marketing Service. The principal changes involve moisture content and split soybeans as grading factors and the adoption of a dockage system. The proposal is made at this time, Mr. Kitchen said, so that interested persons may have an opportunity to study the suggested changes prior to public conferences to be held in the principal producing and marketing areas during May. The conference schedule will be announced later.



BAE Reports On  
Cotton Situation

This is the fourth consecutive year that the world supply of American cotton has been close to 25 million bales and the world supply of all kinds of cotton near 50 million. U. S. consumption will set a new record and probably total about 9 or 9-1/4 million bales, but the quantity being manufactured in foreign countries, particularly in Europe, is so low that world consumption of both American and foreign cotton will be much less this year than last. This will increase the end-of-season (July 31, 1941) carry-over of both American and foreign cotton to record or near-record levels. The high level of domestic cotton consumption this season results in part from direct Government purchases of cotton textiles and products requiring cotton in their manufacturing in connection with the national defense program. The high level of business activity and industrial production with accompanying increased consumer incomes also contributes to a high level of cotton consumption. A third class of contributing factors are the Government's surplus disposal programs which include subsidies on exports of cotton textiles, the Mattress, Stamp Plan, Cotton Bagging for Cotton Bales and the Cotton Insulation Programs.

Chicago Milk  
Marketing Order  
Hearing Called

The Surplus Marketing Administration announced Monday that a hearing will open at 10:00 a. m., C. S. T., April 9, 1941, at the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, on proposed amendments to the existing Federal order regulating the handling of milk in the Chicago area. At the same time consideration will be given a proposed Federal marketing program which would regulate the handling of milk in that part of the Cook - Du Page Counties marketing area not covered by the present Chicago order.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA announced Monday that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Lincoln and Sibley Counties, Minnesota, and these seven North Dakota counties: Adams, Billings, Bowman, Golden Valley, Logan, McIntosh and Slope.

Argentina Sends  
Pre-Roasted Beef

The National Provisioner, March 29, says that quick frozen pre-roasted beef, produced by the Argentine Meat Producers' Association, of Buenos Aires, is now being shipped to the U. S. in small quantities for the restaurant trade and home consumption. It is reported to have gained favorable acceptance in New York. Developed as an answer to the U. S. customs ban against importation of fresh meat from the Argentine, the roasts are cooked between three and four hours in an oven at a minimum temperature of 212° F., insuring thorough cooking of the center at 126° in compliance with U. S. Government regulations.



White And Yellow  
Corn Compared  
In Chick Diets

Country Gentleman, April, says that if white corn is more readily available, poultrymen may find it just as satisfactory in the ration as yellow corn, provided they furnish other essentials with it. At the Mississippi Experiment Station there were fed two chick-growing rations which were identical except that one contained yellow corn, the other white. Results showed that the white-corn ration is fully as valuable if adequate amounts of alfalfa leaf meal and cod-liver oil are included.

Cuban Flour  
Imports Up

From Havana, a dispatch to the Northwestern Miller, March 26, says that imports of flour by Cuba increased sharply in February, surpassing those of any other month in recent years. The February total was about 170,770 bbls., compared with 95,800 bbls., the previous month and 97,040 bbls., the corresponding month of 1940.

Agriculture In  
British Malaya

Foreign Agriculture, March, includes an article on "Agriculture in British Malaya" by W. I. Ladejinsky, of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

Danes To Build  
Tobacco Lab

Western Tobacco Journal, March 25, says that, in connection with efforts being made to cultivate tobacco in Denmark, the State Experimental Station at Aarslev plans to erect a laboratory where experiments in treatment of Danish tobacco under various degrees of warmth and humidity can be carried out.

New Peaches  
Promising

Country Gentleman, April, says that twenty-five new and promising peach seedlings developed by the University of Illinois College of Agriculture will be tested for the first time in seven or more of the commercial peach-growing states this year. A total of 2257 trees of the twenty-five new types will be distributed to those co-operating in the tests. M. J. Dorsey, head of the college's department of horticulture, and his associates have been selecting and developing the new types since 1929 with the idea of getting varieties that can be grown closer to the markets and marketed in much better condition than competing varieties grown in states some distance away.

Nicotinic Acid  
Shortage

Northwestern Miller, March 26, says that the suddenly expanded demand for nicotinic acid as the result of the flour enrichment program has created a serious, even though transient, shortage in that essential synthetic vitamin product. The large manufacturers of chemicals say the shortage is certain to be of short duration, probably not to exceed 30 days.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 2

Section 1

April 2, 1941.

## SENATE ENDS ARGENTINE BEEF AND WOOL BAN

The Washington Post, April 2, says that, in a compromise move, that Senate Tuesday knocked out of an Army-Navy appropriation bill a virtual prohibition against purchases of Argentine beef and wool. It substituted an amendment, specifying that henceforth the War Department may buy foreign farm products unless the Secretary of War finds that there is available at a "reasonable" price a "sufficient" quantity of American farm products of "satisfactory" quality. The action followed an urgent plea from Secretary Hull that the language of the prohibition tentatively adopted on Monday not be permitted to stand. Secretary Hull wrote to Senator Van Nuys (Dem., Ind.) that the original language would have "a most unfortunate effect on public opinion in the other American republics, at the very time when it is so important that inter-American relations should be of a most friendly character."

## SENATE GROUP ACTS TO "FREEZE" COTTON STOCKS

From Washington, April 1, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the Senate Agricultural Committee Tuesday voted to "freeze" present stocks of Government owned and loan cotton in an attempt to eliminate the depressing influence of this huge supply of about 10,800,000 bales from the market. Under the terms of the measure, the cotton would be locked up by the Commodity Credit Corporation and made available only for relief or to meet the needs of national defense and then only in such a manner so as not to disturb the market.

## SHARECROPPERS DECREASE IN U.S.

The AP, April 1, says that the Census Bureau reports that there are fewer sharecroppers now than at any time in the last two decades. The 1940 census found 541,291 sharecroppers in sixteen States, 234,987 less than in 1930. The decline was attributed to increased use of power machinery, which caused some landlords to discontinue leasing part of their land, and to programs assisting sharecroppers to buy their land. Mississippi led in this type of farming, its 125,483 sharecroppers being more than double those in any State.



Commerce Journal  
Cotton Report

According to the third survey of the season by the New York Journal of Commerce (April 2), made up as of March 30, intentions of growers to plant cotton in the Southern States this spring total 24,321,000 acres, compared with 24,289,000 indicated a month ago and 25,073,000 reported by the Government to have been in cultivation on July 1, 1940. The indicated sowings are the smallest in more than forty years. Meantime, little seeding has been done, crop preparations are more backward than in several years, and an average lateness of approximately twelve days as compared with normal is shown through the cotton belt.

Argentine-U.S.  
Trade up 30%

The New York Herald Tribune, April 2, says that, although Argentina's total trade has declined, her trade with the U.S. and other Western Hemisphere nations has increased and in 1940 was thirty percent larger than for 1939. The report of the Maritime Prefecture, Buenos Aires, shows that 196,813 ships with a total tonnage of 58,049,000 arrived in Argentine ports in 1940. This compares with 195,281 ships with total tonnage of 72,681,000 in 1939.

Prices Withdrawn  
By More Cannerys

The New York Times, April 2, says that canned food packers were withdrawing their prices on new-crop packs in increasing numbers Tuesday, citing numerous uncertainties, chief of which was the problem of whether they would be able to employ labor in sufficient numbers and at sufficiently low wages. In New York State the labor problem was regarded as paramount because of the proximity of defense industries.

Adjustment Of  
Wheat Crop  
Losses Underway

Adjustment of spotted wheat crop losses in the leading producing states of the winter wheat belt is being made by farmer adjusters, Leroy K. Smith, Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, announced today. Preliminary inspections indicate losses on fields insured by the Corporation will be fewer and less severe than under the 1940 program when large acreage abandonments necessitated payment of indemnities to insured growers, the Manager explained. "On the basis of personal inspection and reports from fieldmen," he added, "the chief causes of early losses are wind, winterkill, freezing, and rabbits. This is true of Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and Arkansas. Damage so far is fairly well scattered in most of these states instead of being concentrated in a few big producing counties as was the case generally last year."

BAE On Tobacco  
Situation

The 1941 season opens with supplies of flue-cured, Burley, and dark tobaccos large relative to normal disappearance. Supplies of Maryland tobacco and of most cigar leaf types are about the same as in recent years. Exports of all tobaccos to date have continued at a low level, but may pick up before the end of the year. Domestic consumption of most tobacco products, especially cigarettes, continue to increase. The Commodity Credit Corporation now holds about 360 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco from the 1939 and 1940 crops, either purchased for British interests or held as security on loans made to domestic export dealers. The Corporation's maximum commitment on the 1940 Burley crop is 6 million dollars on 30 million pounds; on the 1940 dark crop, 7 million dollars on 65 million pounds. Under marketing quotas administered by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration the 1941 acreage allotments will be approximately as follows: Flue-cured 760,000 acres; Burley 380,000 acres; fire-cured 85,000 acres; and dark air-cured, (types 35 and 36), 35,000 acres. With normal yields these acreages would reduce somewhat the excessive supplies of these types. However, yields per acre have been increasing over the past few years. In referenda the growers of these types voted for the adjustment program for the 3 years 1941-43. (BAE)

Canada's Wheat  
Exports Climb

From Ottawa, April 1, the CP says that export overseas clearances of Canadian wheat totaled 3,566,907 bushels in the week ended March 28, compared with 3,161,034 in the corresponding week last year.

Agricultural  
Advisory Council  
To Meet

Secretary Wickard Tuesday announced that a meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Council will be held in Washington on Thursday, April 3, 1941. The meeting, which as usual will be an executive session, will open at 10 A. M., in the office of the Secretary.

Pa. Dutch Elm  
Quarantine  
Considered

A public hearing at Washington, D. C., on April 9 has been announced by the Secretary of Agriculture to consider extending the Dutch elm disease quarantine to include the 9 counties of Montgomery, Luzerne, Bucks, Susquehanna, Lehigh, Northampton, Wayne, Philadelphia, and Monroe in Pennsylvania. The conference will be held before officials of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine in the auditorium of the Department of Agriculture.

Stamp Plan  
Extensions

The USDA has announced the extension of the Food Stamp Plan to include Griffin and the rest of Spalding County, Georgia, Marshall County, Kansas, and to an area in Louisiana consisting of these seven parishes: Caddo, Bossier, Calcasieu, Terrebonne, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington.



Eliminating  
Fishy Taste  
From Poultry

Country Gentleman, April, says that results of experiments at Purdue University indicate that cod-liver oil should be removed from the feed 16 to 18 days before chickens are marketed.

Two weeks before they were slaughtered, cod-liver oil was eliminated from the ration of one lot of birds that had been getting two percent of it. No bad taste was apparent while their meat was warm after cooking, but a trace was detected when it cooled. One bite was enough from another lot that had been getting four percent of the oil for two weeks. But after the oil had been eliminated for two weeks from the ration of still another lot of birds that had been fed four percent of it, only a slight taste of fishy flavor could be detected.

Weather  
Report

Continued cool weather in the Eastern States and persistent coolness and wetness in the South further retarded the growth of vegetation and seasonal operations on farms. Consequently, farm work and plant development are considerably later than normal in these areas, many places reporting retardation of 2 or 3 weeks. There was some local frost damage on the morning of the 30th as far south as South Carolina. In contrast to continued frequent rains in the South, scanty precipitation in recent months has resulted in rather serious dryness in the Ohio and lower Missouri Valleys. In some Ohio Valley sections the last 2 months have had less than 25 percent of normal rainfall and some areas report the driest 3-month period, since the first of the year, of record. Good, warm rains are badly needed in these States and warmth and sunshine throughout most of the South. However, rainfall of the week was beneficial in the south Atlantic area. Moisture in the Great Plains area continues to be satisfactory generally, although in some sections showers would help the top soil. From the Rocky Mountains westward, conditions continue satisfactory, on the whole. In contrast to the backwardness of the season in the East, vegetation is abnormally advanced in most western sections; in the Southwest range development is a month ahead of normal.

Boning, Curing,  
Smoking Poultry

In U. S. Egg and Poultry Magazine, April, P. J. Schaible and J. A. Davidson, of the Michigan Experiment Station, write on "Boning, Curing and Smoking Poultry Meat."

Gives \$10,000  
To Royal  
Society, London

To aid British scientists in publishing results of their researches, the American Philosophical Society has made a contribution of \$10,000 to the Royal Society of London. A statement accompanying the gift expressed the hope that it would be used where it might be of most service in aid of science and learning in Britain. (Science Service.)

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 3

Section 1

April 3, 1941.

## \$238,000,000 ASKED IN FARM PARITY FUND

The Washington Post, April 3, says that a \$238,000,000 increase in the farm parity payment fund, approved by the House, was urged on the Senate floor Wednesday by Appropriations Subcommittee chairman Russell (Dem., Ga.) as "a little hand-out to keep the farmer off the relief rolls." Senator Russell said "Of course, we are not solving the farm problem by voting these parity payments from year to year, but we can at least keep the farmer going during this period when his export market is disappearing and the rest of the country is prospering from the defense program."

## ACTION TO CURB FOOD PROFITEERING SEEMS IMMINENT

From Washington, April 2, the AP says that the Administration may soon "crack down" on food speculators suspected of seeking "undue" profits either from domestic needs or from those of Great Britain and the other nations marked for the lease-lend aid. The question of food profiteering is understood to figure prominently in official conferences now in progress to formulate a broad program to assure adequate supplies for both domestic and foreign aid requirements. Indications were that the general program would be outlined in the near future in a formal Government announcement.

## BIG DRAIN SEEN ON LOAN COTTON

From Washington, April 3, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that Government farm officials estimated Wednesday that as much as 1,250,000 bales of loan cotton may be withdrawn from Government loan stocks by the end of this month or mid-May as a result of the rising trend of cotton prices that has been underway for the past several weeks. They said that withdrawals have been stepped up considerably in recent weeks and that it is now estimated that close to 1,000,000 bales have been taken out the loan and placed in commercial channels. Some of the withdrawals, it was added, include 1938-39 cotton of particular grades and quality in which there now exist shortages in available supplies of "free" cotton.



Winter Wheat  
Estimates Down

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 3, says that a moderate reduction from the last Government estimate of the winter wheat crop is indicated in private estimates issued Wednesday. The average for the four estimates published Wednesday and one issued earlier in the week is 616,000,000 bushels, a decrease of 17,000,000 bushels compared with the Government's preliminary forecast on December 1. The ten-year average on the winter wheat crop (1929-38) is 571,000,000 bushels and in 1940 the harvest amounted to 589,000,000 bushels.

Egg Futures Set  
Four Year High

From Chicago, April 2, the AP says that prices on the local wholesale egg market, now at highest levels for this time of year since 1937, were unchanged to 1/2 cent higher Wednesday while futures soared spectacularly to new three and four year peaks on the Chicago mercantile exchange. Traders said action of the SMA in buying 372,510 dozens of eggs privately Tuesday acted as a supporting influence on the market.

Flagg Painting  
On Forest Fires  
Given Wickard

The Washington Times-Herald, April 3, says that Secretary Wickard Wednesday accepted the gift of an original painting by James Montgomery Flagg depicting the potential havoc of forest fires. At the same time, Secretary Wickard announced that the USDA is distributing, through the Forest Service, 300,000 copies of the painting in poster form to warn civic and patriotic agencies throughout the country against destruction of forest resources. He emphasized the value of the country's woodlands in terms of national defense. Earle H. Clapp, acting chief of Forest Service, estimated at the conclusion of the presentation ceremonies that 90 percent of the damage to the nation's forests is "man-caused."

Cotton Prices  
Continue Rise

The AP, April 2, says that Washington legislative efforts to boost farm income in the forthcoming growing year released a wave of buying Wednesday that lofted new crop cotton deliveries to the season's peak prices. The final range was up per bale 30 cents to \$1. Worth Street textile agents in New York reported active turnover at advancing prices in heavy sheetings and drills.

Evans Speaks  
On Wheat

R. M. Evans, Administrator of the AAA, spoke Thursday afternoon at the Silver Anniversary Convention of the Farmers Co-Operative Grain Dealers Association of Oklahoma, at Enid, Oklahoma, on the subject "Issues In The Wheat Marketing Quota Referendum."



Iowa Wheat Area  
Plants New Crops

From Sioux City, Iowa, April 2, the CTPS says that thousands of acres of winter wheat in the Missouri River bottoms between Sioux City and Missouri Valley will be replanted to other crops this spring. It is estimated that 75 percent of the wheat acreage in Iowa's greatest winter wheat section was killed by the freeze last November. The plants that did survive the frost were destroyed by wild geese and brants. In many fields the birds ate off every blade of green wheat plants.

BAE On Vegetable  
Situation

Smaller supplies of potatoes and dry edible beans, but larger supplies of sweet-potatoes and truck crops for market and processing, are in prospect for 1941. With the prospect that consumer purchasing power will continue to rise and average materially higher in 1941 than in 1940, the demand for vegetables in general will be considerably improved over that of last season and vegetable prices probably will be as high as those of a year earlier, if not higher. The prospective acreage of potatoes is the smallest since 1926 - 4 percent smaller than the acreage planted in 1940. An 8-percent increase in the prospective acreage of sweetpotatoes indicates that, with average yields, production in 1941 is likely to be larger than the relatively small crop of 62 million bushels in 1940. Because of record large supplies and low prices for dry edible beans during the current season, the prospective acreage for 1941 is reduced 8 percent from the acreage planted in 1940. With an increase in the carry-over in prospect the supply of beans available in 1941 probably will not be reduced as much as the present acreage prospects would indicate. (BAE)

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA announced Wednesday that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Waterloo and the rest of Black Hawk County, Iowa, and these seven Nebraska counties: Burt, Jefferson, Merrick, Otoe, Saunders, Thayer, and Washington.

Enriched Flour  
Differential  
Favored

"Soft wheat millers are overwhelmingly in favor of the establishment of a differential on enriched family flour, according to replies received in response to a questionnaire issued by the Soft Wheat Millers Association. Returns also indicate an almost equally impressive majority as opposed to enrichment of all flour by governmental ruling. A substantial majority favor voluntary action by the industry to enrich all family flour. Sentiment on government enforcement in event of failure to observe differential or voluntary agreement to enrich all flour appeared to be about equally divided." (Northwestern Miller, March 26.)



Paraguay Has      Paraguay has a new import priority system,  
New Import      which gives preference to government imports,  
Priority Plan      imports of public utility companies, essential  
consumption goods, needs of industries using  
national raw materials, requirements of other industries, and  
general imports, in that order, says Pan American News for March 27.  
Another new regulation requires the settlement of all internal  
transactions in national currency, thus restricting the Argentine  
peso which hitherto has had free circulation in Paraguay.

See Cowhide      With the national defense program boosting  
Imports From      United States leather requirements to some  
S. America      23,000,000 hides this year, there is assurance  
that about 5,000,000 cowhides will be imported  
from South America during the coming months, says Pan American News  
for March 27. Quebracho extract, used in the tanning of leather,  
also is imported from South America. Argentina is the chief sup-  
plier of hides and quebracho.

Correction      In the Daily Digest, April 1, Page # 3,  
in the story concerning the importation of  
cooked Argentine beef, the clause "insuring thorough cooking of  
the center at 126 degrees in compliance with U. S. Government  
regulations" should read "insuring thorough cooking of the center  
at 156 degrees etc."

Britain Justifies      From London, April 2, a New York Times  
French Blockade      dispatch says that the British position on  
food for France was reviewed Wednesday by the  
Ministry of Economic Warfare with a statement in flat terms of what  
was previously implied. The Ministry made these points: 1) The  
independence and neutrality of unoccupied France cannot be admitted;  
2) France is being used to import goods to Germany and Italy and in-  
dustries are known to be working for the enemy; 3) Goods are being  
sent direct to Italian ports in French ships; 4) The majority of  
foodstuffs arriving in unoccupied France is promptly requisitioned  
by the enemy.

Agricultural      From Detroit, April 3, the UP says that  
Products In      Henry Ford's plastic car may widen the field of  
Plastic Autos      agriculture to a point where, Ford believes, all  
vegetation eventually will be utilized by indus-  
try. The revolutionary use of plastics in the superstructure of an  
automobile would require, for 1,000,000 cars, at least 170,000 tons  
of agricultural products and 50,000 tons of synthetic chemicals,  
Ford said. Materials would include 100,000 bales of cotton, 500,000  
bushels of wheat, 700,000 bushels of soy beans and 500,000 bushels  
of corn.

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 4

Section 1

April 4, 1941.

## SENATE PASSES

\$1,340,000,000

## FARM BILL

The Washington Post, April 4, says that the Senate Thursday approved a record-setting \$1,340,000,000 appropriation for the USDA, exceeding by \$444,000,000 President Roosevelt's 1942 budget estimates. The vote was 61 to 9 to increase by \$238,000,000 the parity payment fund approved by the House and convert a House appropriation of \$162,000,000 for parity payments into an outright appropriation. The bill brings to \$450,000,000 the funds available for parity payments to producers of wheat, cotton, corn, rice and tobacco, of which \$150,000,000 can be used during the present fiscal year. The only change made by the Senate in the bill recommended by the Appropriations Committee was the elimination, by a 31-22 vote, of a ban on the use of loans, grants or rural rehabilitation funds for the purchase or establishment of mills, stores or plants competing with existing private firms.

## USDA TO INCREASE

## FOOD SUPPLIES

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The U.S.D.A. announced Thursday an expansion of the Ever-Normal Granary Program into a food program designed to assure ample supplies for the U. S., Great Britain and other nations resisting aggression. Under the expanded program, the production of pork, dairy products, eggs and poultry will be stimulated through the support of prices over the period ending June 30, 1943, at levels remunerative to producers. Other phases of the program include: 1. Continuation of the existing corn loan program for 1941 and 1942. 2. Continuation of the policy of making loan corn available to producers at the loan rate plus certain carrying charges. 3. Allowing producers in the commercial corn producing area to increase corn acreage up to their usual acreage. These producers would not receive corn payments. 4. No corn marketing quotas for the 1941 crop. Assuming continuation of existing price relationships and taking seasonal price variations into account, the Department will make purchases in the open market to support long term prices (Chicago basis) at levels approximately as follows: Hogs cwt., \$9.00; Dairy products (basis of butter lb.) \$.31; Chickens lb., \$.15; and eggs, doz., \$.22.  
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Retailers Launch  
Drive To Repeal  
U. S. Oleo Levy

From Chicago, April 3, a dispatch to the N. Y. Journal of Commerce says: the National Association of Retail Grocers this week launched an active drive among food retailers for support of H. B. 3754 and H. B. 3753, both proposing repeal of the Federal license tax on retail dealers in oleomargarine.

Says British  
Children Need  
More Food

From London, April 3, the AP says a post-war generation of shorter and weaker Britons was predicted today by V. H. Mottram, internationally known dietitian of the University of London, unless the protein rations of British children are increased. Writing in the Lancet, authoritative British medical journal, the physiologist said that more meat, milk, bacon, butter and eggs should go into children's diets "even if it means a voluntary sacrifice by adults of proteins in favor of the young."

Grocers Support  
Drive To Reduce  
Shipping Losses

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 4, says that the National American Wholesale Grocers' Association announced Thursday that it was launching an intensive campaign among wholesale grocers and canners for greater care in the methods of packing, handling and shipping foods. The campaign is being tied up with the current drive of the Shippers' Advisory Boards for the reduction of transportation waste as a result of avoidable losses arising from damaged merchandise.

Seek To Cut  
Food Spoilage  
Losses

From Wilmington, Delaware, April 3, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that, in the du Pont research laboratory there has been inaugurated a broad research program aimed at reduction of the nation's food bill by curbing spoilage losses. Molds and bacteria which attack foods levy a toll estimated as exceeding \$100,000,000 a year. Sour milk and moldy berries are two familiar contributions to this loss. Improved modern packaging and refrigeration reduced spoilage but "much remains to be accomplished," according to du Pont chemists. Work thus far has resulted in the regular use of propionates, naturally present in small amounts in many food products, as mold "inhibitors" by the baking and dairy industries.

Food Brokers Find  
Trading Difficult

The New York Times, April 4, says that food brokers Thursday found increasing difficulty in putting through orders, with many packers withdrawn from the market and others either sold up on the old pack or holding their remaining stocks at relatively high prices. Efforts of distributors to buy canned peaches were generally fruitless.



Crop Damage Aids  
Orange Producers

From Los Angeles, April 3, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that rain damage to California's citrus crop has brought about a price recovery on oranges following a sharp drop during the latter part of February. Total California orange shipments thus far in the season, exclusive of relief shipments and exports, are running substantially over comparable 1940 totals, according to the California Fruit Growers' Exchange.

Peanuts For Oil  
May Be Grown  
On Cotton Acreage

Provisions of the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program will be amended so as to permit the growing of peanuts for oil on any part of the cotton acreage allotment which is not used for cotton production without incurring deductions from Agricultural conservation and parity payments, Secretary Wickard said today. It was pointed out that this provision would not affect the operation of peanut marketing quotas if they are approved by growers in the referendum which is expected to be held under the legislation providing for peanut quotas. This legislation provides that a farmer can market excess peanuts either by payment of the penalty of three cents a pound or by delivery of such peanuts to an agency designated by the Secretary of Agriculture for marketing at the current value of peanuts for crushing for oil.

Britain To Spur  
Exports To U. S.

From London, April 3, a New York Herald Tribune dispatch says that Oliver Lyttleton, president of the Board of Trade, declared in the House of Commons Thursday that Great Britain not only will maintain but will expand its exports to the U. S., as a means of bolstering its dollar balances, in spite of the lend-lease act. Britain's ability to produce and deliver goods of high quality will, Lyttleton hoped, encourage buyers in the U. S. to continue to seek such articles.

Stamp Plan  
Extensions

The Department of Agriculture announced yesterday that the Food Stamp Plan for distributing surplus agricultural commodities will be extended to 21 counties in Minnesota. They are Pipestone, Scott, Le Sueur, Brown, Red Lake, Cottonwood, Rock, Chisago, Lac Qui Parle, Pine, Mille Lacs, Steele, Kittson, McLeod, Pennington, Isanti, Yellow Medicine, Todd, Wright, Blue Earth, and Lyon., and to these four California counties: Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo and Santa Cruz.

Cotton Stamp  
Extension

The USDA announced today that the Cotton Stamp Plan will be extended to Phoenix and the rest of Maricopa County, Arizona.



Forest Service  
Report On South  
Georgia Pines

Most intensively used forest area in the U.S. probably is the 10 million acres of piney woods in South Georgia, according to a recent survey by the Forest Service. The South Georgia region produces more rosin and turpentine than any comparable area in the world as well as great quantities of lumber, poles, ties and pulpwood. Wealth from the forest industries overshadows that from any other source, two thirds of the land being a forest of longleaf and slash pine, with occasional stands of loblolly pine and river-bottom forests of hardwoods.

Blue Stamp Food  
Buying Up

Blue surplus food stamps added more than \$7,200,000 worth of farm products in February to the diets of 3,109,000 members of families eligible to receive public assistance, the Surplus Marketing Administration announced today in its monthly report on the Food Stamp Plan. During February families taking part in the Food Stamp Plan used blue stamps --which increased their expenditures for agricultural products approximately 50 percent--as follows: 14 percent for butter; 12 percent for eggs; 32 percent for pork products; 16 percent for flour and other cereals; 15 percent for fruit; and 11 percent for vegetables. Purchases with blue stamps, representing new outlets for surplus farm commodities, included 2,843,000 pounds of butter; 3,988,000 dozen eggs; 25,251,000 pounds of white and Graham flour and 8,274,000 pounds of other cereals; 10,521,000 pounds of pork and 4,825,000 pounds of pork lard; 29,728,000 pounds of potatoes, 3,842,000 pounds of dry beans, 3,644,000 pounds of onions, and 340,000 pounds of fresh carrots.

Officials Take  
Steps To Resettle  
846 Families

From Richmond, April 3, the AP says that a State committee Thursday authorized its chairman, Agricultural Commissioner L. M. Walker, Jr., to arrange a conference at Bowling Green with various Federal agencies to consider steps for resettlement of 846 families now living in the 110,000 Caroline County acres which the Army intends to acquire for a maneuver ground. Mr. Walker will ask representation at the meeting by the Army, the Farm Security Administration, the Soil Conservation Service and the Federal Farm Land Bank.

Lloyd George  
On British  
Food Situation

From London, April 3, the CTPS says that David Lloyd George, former Prime Minister of England, took part in the debate Thursday on Britain's food situation. He said that between the outbreak of the World War and the present one the production of fodder and root crops for livestock has decreased one-third. Since 1914, he admitted, the amount of land under crops "actually decreased by 4,500,000 acres." He said that he hoped, by next spring, 3,750,000 acres of new land will be reclaimed for agriculture. During the last war, 2,300,000 acres were plowed up.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 5

Section 1

April 7, 1941.

## JONES CALLS DEFENSE FOOD CONFERENCE

From Washington, April 6, a New York Times dispatch says that Secretary of Commerce Jones has called, for May 2, a conference of business and government representatives to discuss food, clothing and textiles and their prices and distribution to the general public in connection with the defense program. Milo Perkins of the Surplus Marketing Administration, will act as chairman, and there are to be discussion leaders from the business world for meats, dry groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables, dairy products, etc.

## FOOD PRICE BOOST REACTION PLEASING

From Washington, April 5, a Baltimore Sun dispatch says that USDA officials Saturday said they were well satisfied with trade and public reaction to the inauguration Thursday of the Administration's program for boosting certain domestic food prices as part of the aid-to-Britain program. They noted with satisfaction a virtually complete absence of expected public, or consumer, criticism of the move. In addition, they reported that commodity markets had shown an immediate favorable response to the plan.

## WALLACE TO HAIL PAN-AMERICAN DAY

The AP, April 5, says that Vice President Wallace will lead the nation in observance of Pan American Day on April 14 with an address at a luncheon given in honor of Latin-American Ambassadors and Ministers at the Pan American Union. Throughout the U. S., more than 6,000 different groups will hold special programs commemorating the bond of friendship uniting the twenty-one republics of the Western Hemisphere. Arrangements are being made to broadcast the Vice President's address.

## ARGENTINE FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT WASHINGTON

The Washington Star, April 6, says that Argentina's new Foreign Minister, Dr. Ruiz Guinazu, will visit Washington next month under circumstances indicating increasingly close cooperation between the U. S. and Argentina. Secretary of State Hull announced Saturday that Dr. Guinazu had accepted an invitation from President Roosevelt to stop here on his way from Italy, where he has been the Argentine Ambassador to the Vatican, to assume the new cabinet office.



Sharp Rise  
In Food Prices

From Washington, April 6, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the Department of Labor reports that prices of domestic foodstuffs advanced sharply from March 28 to April 4, as the markets anticipated shipments overseas and higher crop loan rates. Led by marked increases for edible fats and oils, the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index of 28 basic commodities rose 1.3 percent to a new high since the European war began. The gain during the week brought the index to 136.2 percent of the August, 1939, level. Since the first of March, the index has risen over 10 percent, and it is 21 percent above a year ago.

Outlook For Loan  
Dominates Wheat

From Chicago, April 6, a New York Times dispatch says that new high prices for wheat since May, 1940, were established last week, with the May position selling above 93 cents a bushel at times, as the result of growing confidence that Congress would enact legislation to establish the loan level on the 1941 crop at 75 percent or more of the parity price of \$1.13 a bushel. Closing prices on wheat futures on the Board of Trade Saturday showed gains of 3/8 to 5/8 cent a bushel for the week, with the May contract at 92 1/4 to 92 1/2 cents; July, 91-1/8 to 91-1/4; September, 91 3/4 to 91-7/8.

U. S. Farm Group  
To Tour South  
American Ranches

The New York Herald Tribune, April 7, says that a group of U. S. farm leaders will leave New York Friday for a visit to the ranches of several districts of Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. This was announced Sunday by Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, which is sponsoring the trip. Doctor Butler said that the purpose of the trip is to establish personal contacts between the farm leaders of the U. S. and the southern countries and to make possible a first-hand observation of local conditions with which farm and ranch interests in these countries are faced.

Draft Of Chemists  
Called Unwise

From St. Louis, April 6, a New York Times dispatch says that the threatened depletion of the supply of technical brains needed by the chemical industry, as a result of the selective service draft, has created a "grave situation," according to Dr. Charles L. Parsons, secretary of the American Chemical Society, which opens its 101st national meeting in St. Louis today with a symposium on the relation of the chemical profession to selective service.



April 7, 1941.

C-Type Cargo  
Ships May Go  
To Britain

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 7, says that disclosure that about half of the additional 212 cargo ships to built for Britain and her allies will be of the standard C-types embodied in the Maritime Commission's long-range program, raised the question in shipping circles over the week-end of whether some of these superior shipping vessels now nearing completion may not be assigned for aid-to-Britain. The virtual tripling of the long-range program over the original goal of fifty ships annually just announced, with considerable expansion of the yards building these types, was seen opening the way for such a move.

Potato Famine  
In Belgium

A New York Times story, April 6, says that there were only three pounds and five ounces of potatoes per person available in Brussels during the month of January, according to a letter from Countess Herman D'Oultremont, president of the Brussels food relief committee. The letter also stated that butcher shops were closed because there was no meat, and that fish, rarely obtainable now, brought exorbitant prices.

Farmers Facing  
Labor Shortage

From Chestertown, Maryland, April 6, the AP says that, with the spring and summer crop seasons near at hand, farmers in the middle Eastern shore area are reported to be facing a serious labor shortage. Many farm laborers have left this agricultural section to take jobs in defense industries at much higher wages, and others have been called up for military service. The asparagus growers will be the first to feel the pinch of the labor shortage.

Conservation  
Districts Cover  
Ala. Farm Land

Alabama last week became the first state with every acre of farm land in soil conservation districts -- legally authorized farmer cooperatives for conservation. Beginning in June, 1939, farmers in county after county have gone to the polls and voted for soil conservation districts. By March 29 this year all but 15 counties had been included within district boundaries. Recently the farmers of these counties voted and their ballots -- overwhelmingly in favor of district organization -- fill in the last gaps in the state soil conservation map. The soil conservation district idea found favor in other parts of the country last week. Arizona and Maine enacted soil conservation district laws, permitting farmers in those states to organize for soil conservation work. Wyoming passed a similar law the week before. In all, 41 States have now enacted laws permitting farmers to establish conservation districts.



Farm Prices,  
Income Top  
1940 Figures

Farm income is rising. Prices of all products combined are near the high marks since the outbreak of the European War; total farm income for the first quarter of 1941 was a little larger than in the like period of 1940. Total for the second quarter also is expected to be larger, according to the BAE in its monthly summary of the agricultural situation. To the continued improvement in domestic consumer demand for farm products has been added prospect for exports under the Lend-Lease Act. The agricultural plant is reported in good physical condition to provide for these domestic and foreign needs. Besides abundant resources for current production of food, feed and fibers, large stocks of commodities have been laid by for emergency needs. These include cotton, wheat, and tobacco. Large supplies of feed grains also are available for conversion into meats and other livestock products. Large supplies of fats and oils already exist.

Weekly Cotton  
Market Review

Cotton prices moved irregularly to new high levels for the current season to date, reports the Agricultural Marketing Service. Spot cotton markets were more active and reported repossession of loan cotton increased about 108,000 bales for the week. The unusually favorable domestic mill situation was again reflected in a strong demand for spot cotton. Export buying continued negligible. The volume of sales of cloth and yarn were smaller than the unusually large volume in other recent weeks but mill prices were strong. Reports of the Weather Bureau and from other sources showed that continued cool weather and rains in the South further retarded seasonal operations on farms.

Texas Grapefruit  
Harvest Extended

Because of heavy rains which have greatly hindered the harvesting of grapefruit, regulations of the Mexican fruitfly quarantine have been modified to extend the harvesting season to the close of May in the Texas counties of Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, and Willacy -- provided conditions of infestation do not necessitate an earlier closing -- Dr. Lee A. Strong, Chief of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, announced Friday.

Peanut Marketing  
Quotas Set

Secretary Wickard Saturday proclaimed marketing quotas on peanuts for the 1941 crop and called a referendum among peanut growers for Saturday April 26. The proclamation was provided for by Congress in a recent amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. The national quota for 1941 is the amount of peanuts which will be harvested from the national acreage allotment, set by law at 1,610,000 acres. This is the same as the peanut acreage allotment under the 1940 Agricultural Conservation Program.

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 6

Section

April 8, 1941.

NEW YORK CITY  
MAY USE USDA  
MEAT GRADING

The New York Herald Tribune, April 8, says that William W. Wheeler, regional supervising meat grader of the USDA, Monday gave a demonstration of Federal meat grading before several members of the New York City Council and fifty women, representing civic, social and welfare organizations. This was in connection with a bill now before the City Council to make compulsory the grading of meat in New York City. He explained the "graded" stamp that the USDA uses to classify meats as prime, choice, good, commercial and utility, and added that only the U. S. Army, the city of Seattle, railroads and leading hotels take advantage of this classification.

EIRE MINISTERS  
SEEK U.S. FOOD

The AP, April 7, says that two representatives of Eire, Minister Robert Brennan and General Frank Aiken, Minister for Defense Coordination, called on President Roosevelt Monday in an effort to obtain American food, ships and arms. Aiken said that Ireland was seeking to buy American products, and was interested particularly in obtaining 30,000 tons of wheat.

TO PAY BONUS  
ON CHEESE

From Toronto, April 7, the CP says that Provincial Minister of Agriculture P. M. Dewar told the Ontario Legislature Monday that the Federal and Provincial Governments were fearful that the cheese quota for Great Britain this year could not be met by Canadian producers. The quota this year is 112,000,000 pounds, an increase of nearly 30,000,000 pounds over last year. Great Britain will pay 14 1/2 cents a pound, the Dominion Government will boost the price to 15 cents, while the Ontario Government intends to pay a bonus of 2 cents a pound on cheddar cheese manufactured in this Province.

CHICAGO EXPERTS  
SEE BUMPER WINTER  
WHEAT CROP

From Chicago, April 7, the CTPS says that reports received by grain market authorities show that the United States' 1941 winter wheat crop will be of the bumper variety. Experts who analyzed the crop picture estimated the harvest at between 609,000,000 and 621,000,000 bushels, compared with last year's production of 589,000,000 bushels. Such a crop would be the largest since 1938.



April 8, 1941.

World Cotton Crop  
30,133,000 Bales

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 8, says that production of commercial cotton in the world this season is now estimated at 30,133,000 bales by the New York Cotton Exchange Service, representing an increase of about 850,000 bales from earlier calculations from the same source. "The increase," the service says, "has been due entirely to larger than expected outturns in most of the major foreign cotton producing countries, since the domestic crop is currently estimated at about 150,000 bales less than early season forecasts indicated."

U. S. Food Exports  
Down 50 Percent

From Washington, April 7, a New York Times dispatch says that the U. S. exported foodstuffs valued at \$15,949,000 during February of this year, a decrease of 50 percent from the 1940 month, according to the Foodstuffs Division of the Department of Commerce. This decrease, said the division, is accounted for by the loss in the European markets, plus the fact that a year ago our exports of foodstuffs were somewhat inflated, due to heavy stocking-up prior to import restrictions in the United Kingdom and Canada and the building up of food reserves in neutral Europe.

More Canadian  
Ham Sought  
By Britain

From Ottawa, April 7, the CP says that Minister of Agriculture J. G. Gardiner told the House of Commons Monday that the British Government would require at least 28,000,000 pounds of bacon and hams from Canada this year in addition to the amount contracted for in the bacon agreement concluded last fall. Tying the government's wheat acreage reduction program to the need of getting coarse grains to feed Canada's expanding livestock population, the Minister disclosed that three-way discussions on food supply had been in progress among the Canadian, British and U. S. Governments.

Retail Food  
Sales Up 12%

The New York Times, April 8, says that retail food sales last week in terms of dollar volume ran about 12 percent above 1940; largely because of the uptrend in prices, according to the American Institute of Food Distributors. Wholesale grocers had sales only about six percent above last year, a poorer showing than in recent weeks. Nearly 80 percent of the chains, wholesalers and retailers reporting looked for dollar volume gains for the second quarter.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA announced Friday that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Ashland and the rest of Boyd County, Kentucky; St. Louis County, Missouri; and Marshall, Newton, and Jasper Counties, Mississippi.



Hog Prices  
Gain Sharply

From Chicago, April 7, the AP says that hog prices, advancing 50 to 75 cents a hundredweight, soared to a new top since September, 1939, in active trading Monday. Choice weights sold freely at \$9 a hundred, while several short loads established an extreme top of \$9.10. A marked decline in the number of salable receipts was a prime factor in the advance. Present prices are approximately \$3 above those at Christmas.

French Get  
American Food

From Marseilles, April 7, a New York Herald Tribune dispatch says that Ambassador William D. Leahy, in a simple ceremony, formally turned over to French authorities Monday the cargo of food, medicine and clothing which the Exmouth had brought to the youngsters of France, amidst hundreds of school children waving French and American flags. "This is only the beginning," the American Ambassador declared. "We will send more just as soon as it is possible to do so."

Cotton Declines  
6-10 Points Net  
On Liquidation

The New York Herald Tribune, April 8, says that, on moderately heavy Bombay liquidation, the New York cotton market broke sharply Monday to losses of 16 to 20 points during early trading, but closed steady 6 to 10 points lower. The market opened 12 to 20 points lower. Bombay brokers sold about 20,000 bales of new crops, two-thirds of which was in December. The trade gradually absorbed the contracts and the market rebounded upward and turned dull for most of the day.

Packers Allocate  
Some Food Items

The New York Times, April 8, says that packers of some types of food have begun a voluntary rationing system which, although unofficial, may well have the same effects as the governmental rationing now prevalent among the warring nations. An outstanding example of rationing has occurred in apples, where pie bakers have found that orders for as much as 10,000 cases have been out to 1,000 cases. Prices now range from \$3.75 to \$4. for No. 10's, for six to six and a half pounds drained weight, and this represents an advance of nearly 20 percent over the prices prevailing at the year-end.

Three Month  
Sugar Quota  
Entries Report

The Sugar Division of the AAA Monday issued its third monthly report on the status of the 1941 sugar quotas for the various offshore sugar-producing areas supplying the United States market. The report shows that the quantity of sugar charged against the quotas for all offshore areas, including the full-duty countries, during the first three months of the year, amounted to 1,399,958 short tons, raw value, as compared with 984,220 tons in the corresponding period of 1940, and with an average of 1,277,028 tons in the 1936-39 period.



Belgian Food  
Rations Down

A New York News story, April 7, says that Belgian Finance Minister Camille Gutt, of the Belgian government-in-exile, said that the Belgians had rather starve than accept relief food which might help Germany. The minister has just arrived in this country. Describing the conditions as reported from Belgium by underground communications, Gutt said that, while Englishmen and Germans are getting 2,600 calories per day, "in Belgium ration cards theoretically entitle a Belgian citizen to 1,300 calories. The amount he actually gets is about 900 calories, one-third a normal food ration."

Cal. - Ariz.  
Lemon Program  
Effective Apr. 10

A Federal marketing agreement and order for lemons produced in California and Arizona will become effective April 10, 1941, at 12:01 a.m., P.S.T., the Surplus Marketing Administration announced Monday. Applicable to lemons produced in these two States, which make up the major lemon producing areas of the United States, the program will regulate the handling of lemons shipped in interstate commerce and to Canada. The program will be administered by a committee representing the California-Arizona lemon industry.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The Department of Agriculture announced yesterday that the Food Stamp Plan for distributing surplus agricultural commodities will be extended to Fort Dodge and the rest of Webster County, Iowa; to Fulton County, Illinois and to Fulton County, Ohio.

Hispanic  
American  
Land Grants

Land Policy Review (BAE publication) for March contains "Land Grants in Hispanic America," by Wayne D. Rasmussen. "A knowledge of South America's economic and social problems can help in achieving Pan American solidarity," says an editor's note. "Questions of land policy are among the most pressing problems of our southern neighbors; they merit study, but they cannot be understood without some reference to colonial land grants, through which the problems arose."

Increase In Farm  
Buying Predicted

From Chicago, April 7, the UP says that the increase in farm cash receipts to \$10,000,000,000 this year will be offset in part by increased costs of production, but still farmers will have much larger funds for purchasing of agricultural equipment and various other types of goods, farm officials pointed out to the UP in a survey which has just been completed. Farmers expect to use more machinery this year than in previous years, although they face the prospect of increased equipment costs. Industry's effort for defense has slighted farm equipment production, and in some cases preferential demands for metals has upped the prices.

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 7

Section 1

April 9, 1941.

## GALLUP POLL ON PRICE FIXING

The Gallup Poll, April 9, reports on its national vote on the following question: "Would you like to see the Federal Government fix prices so that as long as the war in Europe lasts, everything you buy will cost the same as it does now?" Nine percent of the voters were without opinion. The rest were divided as follows:

	Favor Price Fixing	Opposed
National Vote .....	68%	32%
Businessmen .....	53%	47%
Farmers .....	61%	39%
White-Collar Workers	63%	32%
Skilled, Semi- and unskilled Labor ..	80%	20%

## ELLIOTT SEES NO NEED FOR TEXTILE PRICES TO RISE

From Washington, April 7, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that Miss Harriet Elliott, Consumer Commissioner of the NDAC, has expressed confidence that the cotton textile market will itself correct any unjustified price increases. The industry appears to be in good position to meet all possible military and civilian needs without further increase in price, she added.

## LEAHY ASSURES U. S. ON RED CROSS FOOD

From Toulon, France, April 8, a New York Times dispatch says that U. S. Ambassador Leahy told a Times reporter that "After my observations in Marseille yesterday and here in Toulon today, I am satisfied that all the supplies sent to unoccupied France by the American Red Cross are distributed only to the children for whom they are intended. The system of distribution is being improved every day. I have told the French that I hope this is only the beginning."

Lack of Food  
Essentials  
Breaks Health

From St. Louis, April 8, the UP says that, at the meeting of the American Chemical Society, Dr. R. Williams, of New York, discoverer of vitamin B<sub>1</sub>, told the chemists that the object of artificial reinforcement of foods should be to restore vitamins lost in refining modern food without introducing new artificialities. Effects on health of a lack of essentials in foods were stressed by Dr. Robert T. Conner, of General Foods, who declared evidence was accumulating that much of today's poor health may be modified by increasing the availability of nutritional essentials.

Britain To Fix  
Vegetable Cost

From London, April 8, the CTPS says that Food Minister Lord Woolton has announced the setting up of a national vegetable marketing company which will buy on behalf of his department and provide distribution of all home-produced vegetables. Onions and carrots will be the first vegetables to be dealt with. The growers' price will be fixed and the retail price controlled.

Surplus Supplies  
Seen As Blessing

From New York, April 8, the AP says that Andrew H. Phelps, of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, said Tuesday that surpluses of materials in the U. S. after the war might help solve economic problems instead of glut the market. Phelps told the Mining Club, a group of mining and metallurgical engineers, that the development of new uses for surplus supplies "may prove a blessing in disguise."

Fish Day Decreed  
For New York City

A New York News dispatch, April 8, says that establishment of a second "fish day" -- Tuesday of each week -- to step up fish consumption in New York City and thereby conserve meat for the soldiery, was agreed upon at a conference of Commissioner of Markets William Fellowes Morgan, Jr., with wholesale fish dealers Tuesday. Bargain prices will be used as a bait for the added fish days, which will start April 22.

Canada To Admit  
Oranges Free From  
January To July

From Washington, April 8, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the State Department Tuesday announced modification of the U. S. - Canada trade agreement to provide for the free entry into Canada of oranges from the U. S. during the months of January to June, inclusive. Heretofore free entry was allowed during the months of December through April. Under the change, oranges shipped during other months of the year are to be dutiable at the rate of 35 cents per cubic foot.



War Might Cut  
Off U. S. Supply  
Of Tropical Goods

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 9, says that H. B. Smith, in a report prepared for the Conference Board, as part of a study of "The Wartime Outlook for Agriculture," says that the principal agricultural products in which the U. S. would be entirely deficient if, in the event of war, both the Atlantic and Pacific shipping lanes were cut, consists mainly of tropical and semi-tropical commodities. "The principal items," he states, "are coffee, cocoa, tea, rubber and silk. In addition there are the vegetable fibers, such as jute, hemp, manila fiber and sisal; tropical fruits, nuts and spices, tapioca, and certain medicinal products such as opium and quinine. Some of these products are essential. Others are not. For many, substitutes exist or can be devised."

Australia Studies  
Food Reserve Plan

From Canberra, Australia, April 7, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that Minister for Commerce Sir Earle Page, in a recent discussion of the economic situation, pointed out that all Australian exports are being constantly adjusted in accordance with British needs and the shipping position. It is necessary for Australia to keep her primary industries intact, and therefore Australians must accept a national plan for foodstuff purchases. The defense forces need beef, which consequently would be restricted, but mutton and lamb are accumulating in cool stores. The domestic consumption of mutton and lamb has been encouraged by the export embargo.

Balkan War Means  
Egg, Meat  
Shortage In Italy

From Rome, April 8, a New York Herald Tribune dispatch says that the first visible effect in Rome of the spread of war to Yugoslavia has been a rush by forward-looking housewives to buy eggs. The second has been advice given by head waiters in restaurants, where the well-to-do can buy a small piece of beefsteak, to eat as much as possible now because soon fewer steaks will be available, and at higher prices. Yugoslavia has been the major source of meat and eggs for those Italians who could afford to eat them.

Australian Beef  
Eases Greek  
Meat Rationing

From Athens, Greece, April 8, the AP says that so much Australian frozen beef has been shipped across the Mediterranean from Egypt for the British Expeditionary Force that adequate cold-storage facilities could not be found, and some has been released for sale to the Greek civilian population. The beef proved highly welcome to the Greeks, who have been undergoing six meatless days per week for months.



Cotton Sales  
Under Export  
Program Reported

Total sales and deliveries of cotton products, through March 31, 1941, under the 1940-41 Cotton Products Export Program, were equivalent to approximately 431,000 bales of cotton, the Surplus Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture announced today. Cotton products sold and delivered under the 1939-1940 Cotton and Cotton Products Export Program, up to March 31, 1940, equaled approximately 338,000 bales of cotton. Both totals exclude card strips and spinnable waste.

Control Of  
Brucellosis  
In Cattle

In the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, April, C. M. Haring and J. Traum, of the University of California, write on "Vaccination to Control Brucellosis in Cattle."

Field Experiments  
In Bang's  
Vaccination

In the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association, April, Melvin Rabstein and Mark Welsh, of the University of Maryland, write on "Field Experiments in Bang's Vaccination."

Weather  
Report

According to the weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin, frequent rainfall and wet soil retarded field operations in much of the country, delaying the preparation of soil and spring plantings which are now mostly later than usual. However, the widespread precipitation was decidedly beneficial in many sections, especially in areas east of the Mississippi Valley, the extreme lower Missouri Valley, and northern Great Plains. Except for persistent wetness in some sections, the general moisture situation is unusually favorable. In Eastern States, temperatures were more seasonable than in recent weeks and the growth of vegetation is showing marked revival. From the Rocky Mountains westward the development of vegetation is as much ahead of normal as it is retarded in the East; also, the general moisture is more favorable than for a long time. The growth of winter wheat is developing rapidly, especially in central and southern portions of the belt. In the eastern belt, recent substantial rainfall was outstandingly favorable and "improvement in appearance" was the usual comment of reporters; progress was mostly very good. In western sections, except for winter killing in some areas, the outlook continues satisfactory. In Oklahoma, progress was good to excellent, while favorable development is reported from Kansas, except that much wheat was winter killed in eastern and north-central counties; in west, plants are making excessive top growth. Extensive winter killing is reported also from the extreme western counties of Iowa.

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 8

Section 1

April 10, 1941.

## CHURCHILL WARNS OUR HELP IS VITAL

From London, April 10, a New York Times dispatch says that Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons that only escorts and more escorts could solve the problem of the Battle of the Atlantic. He concluded his review of the war Wednesday with a "thinly veiled appeal to the U. S. to provide convoys for its war material to Britain," says the Times.

## TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA UP

From Washington, April 9, a New York Times dispatch says that the Department of Commerce announced Wednesday that U. S. trade with Latin America expanded in February, in spite of the short month. Exports to the American Republics gained five percent over January, while imports were up 15 percent, resulting in an increase in the import balance with this area from \$12,000,000 in January to nearly \$20,000,000.

## PROTEST EXPANSION OF U.S. BEET SUGAR

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 10, says that, as an aid to national defense and a prop to our Latin-American "good neighbor" policy, leading figures in the fields of labor, government, industry and foreign trade protested Wednesday against further expansion of the quotas for the domestic beet sugar industry and appealed to Congress to maintain a normal flow of raw cane sugar into the U. S. for consumer protection. Protests were made at the regular meeting of the New York Board of Trade at the Hotel Astor.

## FOOD INDEX UP 3 CENTS

The New York Times, April 10, says that the wholesale food price index for the week ended April 8 continued upward, rising 3 cents to \$2.75, the highest level since November, 1937. The new figure was 19.6 percent higher than that for the corresponding week of last year, when the index stood at \$2.30. Advances were recorded in the week for corn, rye, barley, bacon, lard, cottonseed oil, eggs, potatoes, rice, steers, hogs and lambs. Declines included wheat, oats, butter and cocoa.



OPM To Give  
Wool Growers  
Advance Notice

From Washington, April 9, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the O.P.M., in order to inform domestic wool growers how much wool the Government is going to buy before the clip is sold, will estimate and make public at an early date total requirements for the balance of the year. This plan, among other arrangements to enable American wool growers to benefit more directly from defense program wool requirements, was announced by Donald M. Nelson, purchases director of the O. P. M.

Cotton Use  
Exhibit In Patio

In the Patio of the Administration Building, the Surplus Marketing Administration is exhibiting a prefabricated "Cotton House." The house can be erected in 62 man hours, and it has the additional advantage in that it can be dismantled and re-erected on another site for additional years of service. It was designed to fulfill a two-fold necessity; first, as an important consumer of cotton and, second, as a major step in low cost housing with especial reference to our defense needs. The exhibit also includes, in models and pictures, a demonstration of the use of cotton and cotton fabrics in bagging for cotton bales, concrete curing for mats, linings for ditches and canals, reinforced airport runways, fine writing papers, bee hive covers, drying fruits, shading and protecting tree seedlings, fabric for road cuts and fills and for use in fumigating tobacco seed beds. The exhibit will remain in the Patio for the remainder of April.

Supply Shortages  
Vex Germany

From London, April 9, a New York Times dispatch says that a Ministry of Economic Welfare, in a report on how the British blockade is working, said that, in Germany, "the general picture is of a highly organized economy subjected not to any one overwhelming strain due to lack of any one commodity, but rather stretched at many different points. The need to keep up all sorts of synthetic substitute industries or simply grow food instead of importing it is a strain on labor and transport... As far as the German civilian populations are concerned, the shortage of textiles is the hardest blow to bear."

Italy Furnishes  
Much Food  
For Nazis

From Rome, April 9, the AP says that Italy has embarked on a campaign of intensive land cultivation with better farming methods in an attempt to squeeze from her soil more food for Germany as well as feed her own people. Neutral observers have estimated that Italy is supplying Germany with one-fourth or more of her fruit crops, one-fourth of her cheese, one-third of her olive oil and one-eighth of her huge tomato output. She has agreed to ship more foodstuffs to Germany this year, particularly vegetables and fruits.



Appeal For Wheat  
Renewed By Vichy

From Washington, April 9, a New York Times dispatch says that the French food plight was presented as serious Wednesday by Ambassador Henry-Haye in a fresh appeal to Sumner Welles, Under-Secretary of State, for the right to purchase with unblocked funds in this country 490,000 tons of wheat to be shipped to unoccupied France this spring and summer. That amount is necessary by the end of August, he said, or the people will be without bread for two months. No immediate reaction to the appeal was announced.

Factory Stoppage  
In Argentina Seen

From Buenos Aires, April 9, a New York Times dispatch says that Buenos Aires business men and bankers agree that Argentina, in an effort to protect its exchange position by discouraging purchases from the U. S. and facilitating those from England, has overplayed her hand, and faces the possibility of shortages which would close many industries. A hasty move to correct the situation has been made in the last few days through more liberality in granting import permits for tin, steel, coal, cement, concrete reinforcing bars, window glass and other products from the U. S.

Farmers Warned  
Against 'Hoppers

Insured wheat growers today were warned by Leroy K. Smith, Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, to use every available means to protect their crops from insect outbreaks, especially grasshoppers, following Congressional authorization to the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, of \$2,225,000 for control of destructive pests. "Unless farmers whose crops are insured exert reasonable effort to prevent destruction by insects, the value and protective features of their contracts will be lessened," Smith said. "In such cases farmers would not derive the full benefits of their crop insurance that otherwise would be available."

On Spacing  
Sweet Potatoes

Farm and Ranch, April, says experiments at Arkansas Experiment Station indicate that the earlier sweet potatoes are set in the field, the closer they should be spaced in the row to discourage the production of "jumbos." Close spacing of the early plantings also results in higher total yields, according to other experiments carried on by the South Carolina Station. There was no significant difference between 6- and 9- inch spacing, or between 12- and 15-inch spacing, but the average yields of the close spacings was higher, and with fewer jumbos than the average of the two wider spacings.

Research And  
Citrus Problems

In Florida Grower, April, T. G. Stitts, Chief of the Cooperative Research and Service Division of the Farm Credit Administration, writes on "Research as a Solution of Citrus Problems." The paper is taken from an address delivered by Mr. Stitts at a 1941 meeting of the Florida Council of Farmers' Cooperatives at Orlando.



Trends In  
Butter  
Technology

In The Creamery Journal, April, M. E. Parker, of Chicago, writes on "Trends and Results in Butter Technology." Mr. Parker says that "probably the more nearly chemically pure or refined the food product, the more susceptible it is to technological processing. Conversely, the more complex and the more nearly natural its composition, the more dependent is quality control upon the artisan's skill, although it can be rendered more certain by the application of the technologists knowledge."

New Soybean  
In Louisiana

Coastal Cattleman, April, says that Magnolia, a new yellow-seeded variety of soybean that makes satisfactory yields of seed under Louisiana conditions has been developed at Louisiana State University experiment station, giving farmers of the state their first variety adapted to the production of seed suitable for crushing by oil mills. The variety was developed by John Gray, associate agronomist of the station.

Advances In  
Refrigeration  
Biology

In Refrigerating Engineering, April, B. E. Proctor, Associate Professor of Food Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, writes on "Advances in Refrigeration Biology." This report covers the past year and takes up refrigeration for army field kitchens, quick freezing of flower bulbs, nitrated ice for packing fish, the freezing of ground peanuts, gas fumigation of grapes, and other new developments in refrigeration.

Building A  
Stock Pile Of  
Fats & Oils

In Food Industries, April, Gordon W. McBride, Chemical Engineer, writes on "Shall We Build a Stock Pile of Fats and Oils?" Included is a table showing the production of domestic fats and oils for the last three years, and a chart showing the relative importance of the food fats and oils, the soap fats and oils, and the drying oils.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA has announced that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Attleboro, Mass. and to 21 counties in Minnesota. They are Big Stone, Clearwater, Douglas, Faribault, Freeborn, Grant, Hennepin (excluding Minneapolis, where the plan is already in operation), Jackson, Lake of the Woods, Mahanomen, Martin, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pope, Redwood, Roseau, Wabasha, Waseca, Wadena, and Watonwan.

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 9

Section 1

April 11, 1941.

## PRICE CONTROL REVISION PROBABLE

The Baltimore Sun, April 11, says that it was indicated authoritatively in Washington Thursday that Government facilities for control of prices during the national emergency will undergo drastic re-organization and expansion within the next few days by direct Presidential order. The further step to guard against repetition of the price-spiraling experience of the first World War period is expected to materialize through the creation, within the National Defense Advisory Commission, of a new division to be known as the office of price control and consumer protection. Leon Henderson, member of the SEC and present head of the NDAC's price stabilization division, is slated to lead the new agency, according to the Sun.

## STOCKYARDS CASE ARGUED 4TH TIME

From Washington, April 10, a New York Times dispatch says that Attorney General Jackson argued before the Supreme Court Thursday the appeal of the Government in the Kansas City Stockyards Case, on trial for the fourth time. Again pitted against him was Frederick H. Wood, of New York, who, with John P. Gage of Kansas City, represented the livestock commission men.

## LIVING COST RISES FOR FOURTH MONTH

The AP, April 10, says that the cost of living for wage earners in the U. S. made its fourth successive monthly advance in March, according to the National Industrial Conference Board. The board, a private research organization, set the March Index at 86.3 percent of the 1923 average, up 0.2 percent over February, and 1.8 percent over March, 1940. Rises in food, clothing and sundries account for the advance.

## U.S.-EGYPTIAN TRADE MAY RISE

From Cairo, April 10, a New York Times dispatch says that the likelihood that American ships may soon be running between Egyptian ports and the U.S. not only opens the possibilities of larger and faster shipments of armaments and manufactured goods to Egypt and the Middle East, but promises new sources of vital raw materials for the U.S. war industries. The materials available are Egyptian long staple cotton and metals, tungsten and manganese. Despite America's large production of cotton, it does not produce enough of the long-fibred variety grown in Egypt, which is necessary in the manufacture of tires and aeroplane fabrics, both vital defense commodities.



Food Processors  
Increase Stocks

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 11, says that manufacturers of food and grocery products are materially widening their operations in the purchasing of raw materials and the building up of warehoused reserves of finished products in distributing centers in anticipation of possible transportation difficulties and other handicaps to normal operations. This broadened activity is taking the form of anticipating later requirements two to three months ahead of normal procedure, rather than the accumulation of excessive stocks, and has developed largely as the result of indicated shipping problems later on in the year as the tempo of the defense program accelerates further.

Wheat-Straw Pulp  
For Newsprint  
In Argentina

From Buenos Aires, April 10, a New York Times dispatch says that the National Research Council group investigating South American industrial expansion was told Thursday that Argentina expects to free itself entirely from the necessity of importing newsprint from Canada and the U. S., by utilizing wheat straws, of which it has an abundance. The country's largest writing and wrapping paper plant in Rosario has not only completed experiments mixing wheat straw with bamboo pulp for the production of newsprint, but has also worked out a successful method for using domestic woods and wheat pulp.

Cotton Ascends  
12 to 16 Points

The New York Herald Tribune, April 11, says that increase in demand for contracts from mill interests caused an upward spurt in cotton prices Thursday. Final quotations were 12 to 16 points net higher.

\$350,000 Grain  
Fire In Canada

From Stavely, Alberta, April 10, a CP dispatch says that damage estimated at \$350,000 was caused there Thursday by a fire that swept through two grain elevators, four grain-storage annexes and three other buildings.

New Zealand  
Holds Meat

From Wellington, New Zealand, April 10, a New York Times dispatch says that Minister of Agriculture James G. Barclay has announced that New Zealand possesses reasonable cold storage space for meat she is unable to export this year. He said that, at the outbreak of the war, storage capacity stood at 165,000 tons, but recent construction has raised this to 210,000 tons.



Soybean Meetings  
Announced

Public conferences on the proposed changes in the U. S. standards for soybeans will be held early in May at four points in the principal producing and marketing areas, C. W. Kitchen, Chief of the Agricultural Marketing Service, announced Thursday. The first of the conferences will be held May 5 at 10 a.m. in Campbell Hall Auditorium, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. Other meetings beginning at 2 p.m. will be held May 6 in the Library of the Board of Trade, Indianapolis, Ind.; May 7 in the Decatur Club Building, 100 W. Prairie Street, Decatur, Ill.; and May 9 in the Assembly Room of the Chamber of Commerce, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Grain Storage  
Capacity Report

Preliminary returns from 24 States covered in the Nation-wide grain storage capacity and stocks survey were reported today by the USDA. The returns, as of March 1, show a rated bulk storage capacity of 694 million bushels, a sacked capacity of 245 million bushels, and corn-crib space of a little over 8 million bushels -- a total of 947 million bushels. New construction either under way or contemplated in these States on March 1 will have an estimated capacity of 50 million bushels.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA has announced the extension of the Food Stamp Plan to include Adams, Clay, Dixon, Dodge, Hall and Howard Counties, Nebraska, and the following four North Dakota Counties: Bottineau, McKenzie, McHenry and Mountrail.

April 1  
Crop Report

According to the General Crop Report as of April 1, released by the Crop Reporting Board Thursday, stocks of grain on farms were reported as follows: Corn (for grain), 1,180,078,000 bushels, or 54.2 percent of last year's crop. Wheat, 195,755,000 bushels, or 24 percent, compared with 153,776,000 bushels last year. Oats, 469,913,000 bushels, or 38.0 percent of the 1940 crop. Also reported was an indicated winter wheat crop of 616,128,000 bushels, the largest since 1938 and 4.6 percent larger than last year.

Egg Prices  
Up On English  
Buying

From Chicago, April 10, the AP says that egg futures rose on the Merchantile Exchange Thursday as a result of buying stimulated partly by unconfirmed reports that England would purchase 15,000,000 dozen eggs from the U. S. The October contract advanced 30 points in initial trading but then reacted as no official confirmation of the British purchasing was forthcoming from either Washington or Ottawa. The closing price was 23.85 cents, up ten points.

America Faces  
Seed Shortage

In Cosmopolitan, May, Dean Jennings, in an article "What! No Spinach?" tells of the shortage of vegetable seeds that is threatening the U. S. on account of the European War. Mr. Jennings says that seedmen of the U. S. are starting a drive to change the eating habits of the Nation with new vegetables created or perfected in horticultural laboratories. These include soybeans, rhubarb chard, flavored broccoli, a de-streamlined carrot and a two-in-one cabbage that has Brussels Sprouts growing out of the stem. Since the war, spinach seed has gone up from 11¢ to 70¢ a pound, with no ceiling in sight; onion seeds have climbed from 80¢ to \$4.50 a pound.

Sharp Food  
Price Advances  
Held Unlikely

The New York Herald Tribune, April 10, says that Paul S. Willis, president of the Associated Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., said Thursday that, despite the present national emergency, there is little possibility of the American public having to pay any sharply higher prices for foodstuffs. Although some products, such as coffee, sugar and meat, have shown an upturn recently, grocery products have remained generally static, with price-cutting on nationally advertised brands of food still in evidence on a fairly large scale, Mr. Willis said.

Argentine Exports  
To U.S. Increase

From Buenos Aires, April 9, the UP says that Argentine exports to the U. S. during March were valued at \$14,492,806, an increase of 125 percent over March, 1940, according to the U. S. Chamber of Commerce in Argentina. Exports to the U.S. from January to March, inclusive, were valued at \$40,397,401, a 53 percent increase over the corresponding period in 1940. Wool represented 54 percent of Argentine shipments to the U. S. last month.

Omaha, Ogden Get  
Penny-A-Glass Milk  
For Schools

The Surplus Marketing Administration has announced the extension of the penny-a-glass milk program for schools to include Omaha, Nebraska, and Ogden, Utah. In Omaha, the program will serve more than 10,000 children attending 30 elementary schools in low-income areas.

Writes On  
Uruguay

In The Prairie Farmer, April 5, John Strohm, who is making a tour of Latin America, writes on "Uruguay." Mr. Strohm says that Uruguay is more like the U.S. than any other Latin American country he's visited, the inhabitants eating corn on the cob and arguing democracy. Most popular breed of cattle there is the Hereford, because this breed does better on poorer pastures than do Shorthorns, the second choice.

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VOL. LXXXI, No. 10

Section 1

April 14, 1941.

HENDERSON SAYS WAGE  
INCREASES NEEDN'T  
RAISE PRICES

From Washington, April 14, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that Leon Henderson, in his first press conference since being appointed chief of the newly-established Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, said that wage increases won by unions in basic defense industries are no justification for rises in commodity prices at this time. Prices, in fact, should come down, he said, but he would not discuss with reporters the chances for such a development.

HOG-PRODUCT  
BUYING BULLISH  
FOR GRAIN

From Chicago, April 13, a New York Times dispatch says that trading in corn on the Chicago Board of Trade last week was not large and the market, as a whole, followed the pattern established by wheat, but prices held within comparatively narrow limits. On the other hand, the Government's hog-product-buying program, tending to stabilize the hog-corn price ratio at around 13 to 1, was construed as bullish and likely to result in a large increase in feeding operations and, on the other hand, the offering of corn by the Commodity Credit Corporation at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents a bushel over the May position acted as a complete offset to bullish market actions, as this tended to put a ceiling over the market. Closing corn trades, however, showed gains Saturday of  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $5/8$  cent a bushel for the week.

EXPECT U.S. TO  
BUY EGYPTIAN  
COTTON

From Manchester, England, April 13, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the decision of the U. S. to open up the Red Sea to American shipping means that American merchantmen will have a useful return cargo of Egyptian cotton, in the opinion of the Manchester cotton trade. There is no confirmation of reports that the U. S. Government is buying that much, but the market is inclined to accept these reports as correct in view of the intensity of the United States' arms drive. It is presumed that the U. S. is buying directly from the Anglo-Saxon Purchasing Commission, instead of acquiring this cotton piecemeal.



April 14, 1941.

N.Y. March Milk  
Price Increases

The New York Times, April 14, says that the highest March price for ten years will be paid to approximately 60,000 dairy farmers in the New York milkshed for their products delivered last month, the first month in which the new amendments to the Federal-State milk orders were in effect. A total of \$9,984,359, or \$856,581 more than March of last year, will be divided among 59,597 dairy farmers in New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut who furnished milk to the New York district.

U.S. Exports To  
Britain Up Sharply

From Washington, April 14, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the value of British purchases in the U.S. during 1940 amounted to \$1,010,845,000, a total twice that of the preceding year amounting to \$505,404,000 and far in excess of that recorded for any year since 1925, according to the Department of Commerce. In 1940 the British market was the destination of 25.1 percent, by value, of total U.S. exports as compared with 15.9 percent in 1939 and an average of 17.7 percent for the preceding ten years.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA has announced that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to include 62 counties in Colorado and 21 counties in Wyoming, thus making the program available throughout the two states. These states make a total of eight in which the plan has been approved for the entire state. The other six are Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Utah and New Mexico. The plan also has been extended to include Hancock, Boone, Kossuth, Wright, Jasper, Cerro Gordo, Wapello and Monona Counties, Iowa; Geary and Riley Counties, Kansas; Marion and Ralls Counties, Missouri; Sherman, Nuckolls and Kearney Counties, Nebraska; Defiance and Mahoning Counties, Ohio, and these 21 South Dakota Counties: McPherson, Hanson, Charles Mix, Faulk, Douglas, Walworth, Hutchinson, Corson, Sully, Hyde, Potter, Hand, Tripp, Campbell, Aurora, Perkins, Edmunds, Stanley, Gregory, Brule and Fall River.

New Dairy  
Law Urged

The Farmer, April 5, says that members of the Minnesota Association of Local Creameries are so enthusiastic about results already obtained through the current dairy products advertising and merchandizing campaign, and so enthusiastic about the future of the program, that at their annual meeting in St. Paul recently they voted a resolution urging a law which would compel dairy products handlers in the state to contribute to the advertising and merchandizing campaign.



April 14, 1941.

Hull Statement On  
Pan American Day

From Washington, April 13, a New York Times dispatch says that, in a statement issued in connection with the celebration of Pan-American Day, Secretary Hull said: "... On this memorable anniversary may the people of the U.S. join with their brothers in the other American republics in rededicating their thoughts and energies to the defense and preservation of those high principles of freedom, justice and order under law, upon which the independent nations of the New World were founded."

Birmingham Gets  
Cheap School Milk

The Surplus Marketing Administration of the Department of Agriculture announced today a program under which children in low-income groups attending Birmingham, (and Jefferson County) Alabama, schools, will receive a glass of milk daily for the remainder of the current school year. Delivery of up to 568,720 half-pints of milk between the present time and June 30, 1941, is authorized under the program. Under the Birmingham program the distribution of milk will be made only to the needy children in the Birmingham or Jefferson County schools which are recommended by school authorities anywhere in the area. In this respect the program differs from school milk programs which reach nearly 300,000 children in New York and Chicago. Under these programs milk is available to all children who attend designated schools, but only schools in low income neighborhoods are designated. Departing from the system of distribution usually employed in existing programs, school agencies operating the Birmingham program plan to distribute the milk under a ticket system. Since the program will not interfere with normal deliveries of milk to schools for sale to non-needy children at regular prices, use of the ticket system is intended to avoid any segregation of children into needy or non-needy groups. Under this plan of distribution, milk tickets will be given, or sold at not more than one cent each, to needy children, and will be sold to non-needy children at the regular price. The quantity of milk each child receives daily will be limited to one glass (half-pint). Federal payments will be made only on the milk sold or distributed to needy children.

USDA Committee  
Reports On Ala.  
Housing Needs

Results of a survey of housing and labor needs in the Coosa Valley Defense Area of Northeastern Alabama were announced Friday by the USDA. The survey, covering twelve counties, was made by Alabama land use planning committees at the request of the United States Housing Coordinator and the National Defense Advisory Commission. Approximately 25,000 farm families were included in the survey. Most of them were interested in obtaining non-farm employment in defense projects. More than half the farm families in the area, the committee reported, needed better housing facilities, and it was for families in this group the 3,252 sites for Government defense houses were recommended.



BAE Reports On  
Wool Situation

Mill consumption of apparel wool in the United States in 1941 is expected to be considerably greater than in 1940 and larger than in any previous year. Large orders for wool fabrics for Army use and the high level of incomes of consumers are the important reasons for the large consumption. The weekly rate of consumption of apparel wool, scoured basis, in February was the highest in the 23 years of record. The prospect of a record mill consumption will be a strong supporting factor to domestic wool prices in the 1941 marketing season. Imports of apparel wool for consumption totaled 106.5 million pounds in the first 2 months of 1941 compared with 45.1 million pounds imported in the same months last year. Imports in the early months of this year were larger than at any time since 1921. The large imports were stimulated by relatively small supplies of domestic wool, and the need for large quantities of raw wool to complete Army orders.

Weekly Cotton  
Market Review

Cotton prices declined early in the week but strengthened later and closed about unchanged from a week earlier, reports the Agricultural Marketing Service. Spot cotton markets were less active. Reported repossession of loan cotton were about 181,000 bales for the six days ended April 8. Export buying was again negligible and domestic mill buying slackened after recent heavy purchases. Domestic mills continued to operate at an unusually high rate. The volume of mill sales of unfinished cloth and yarn decreased but prices were mostly unchanged. The Weather Bureau and other sources reported that the weather in the South was more favorable to crop preparations and that planting is getting under way in the southern portions of the Belt.

British Food  
Plant Progress

In Food Industries, April, Eric Hardy, of Liverpool, England, writes on "Progress in British Food Plants." Mr. Hardy discusses new practices in processing, packaging, lighting, handling and process control in Britain's food industries.

Wilson Praises  
Government's  
Wool Program

The New York Herald Tribune, April 13, says that J. B. Wilson, member of the executive committee of the National Wool Growers' Association and Secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, said Saturday that the action of the government in anticipating wool requirements for the current fiscal year, while approximately two-thirds of this season's clip is in the hands of the growers, was "an eminently satisfactory and equitable measure." It is expected that the government's survey will be completed within the next two or three weeks.



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Section 1

April 15, 1941.

4,000 TO 5,000  
ITEMS UNDER  
O.P.A. STUDY

From Washington, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch, April 14, says that the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply, aided by other governmental departments, is making studies of prices and supplies of an enormous number of commodities, particularly those import items which may soon be in short supply. It is estimated that there are as many as 4,000 to 5,000 separate commodities, many apparently having only a distant connection with the defense program, but all of which, price officials say, are inseparately interlinked with some phase of the processing of articles essential to industrial needs.

EXPORT BAN  
EASED ON  
BRITISH EMPIRE

From Washington, April 14, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that American economic pressure on the Axis powers and Russia appears to be tightening in the wake of the Russo-Japanese Easter pact. Secretary Hull Monday issued general licenses authorizing unlimited exports to Great Britain and Canada for rubber tires, fats and oils, war gas chemicals, commercial explosives, synthetic rubber and more than a score of other materials. General licenses for rubber tires and a selected list of fats and oils were also issued for exportation to all the Republics and the Western Hemisphere, Ireland, Greenland, Iceland, Egypt and virtually every portion of the British Empire. It was taken as significant that Russia and Japan, as well as Germany and Italy, were excluded from the benefits of the order.

WALLACE ACCLAIMS  
UNITY OF  
AMERICAS

From Washington, April 14, a New York Times dispatch says that Vice President Wallace, in an address at the Pan American Union Monday, said that Pan American solidarity for hemispheric defense is one of the most vital forces in the world. World events since 1930 and the ruthless acts of the aggressor nations, he said, had drawn the New World together. The emergency "has brought us to a fuller realization of common interests -- economic, social, moral and political."



"Parity" Disputed  
As Farm Aid Basis

From Washington, April 14, the New York Times says that Ernest Angell, chairman of the National Economy League, said Monday that farmers have no case for seeking increased Federal subsidies on a theory of parity which assumes that the nation should restore agriculture to the position it occupied in an abnormally prosperous period more than a quarter century ago. He added that, "while it is sound policy for the government to help farmers conserve the soil and give other aid when necessary, tax payers at this time expect economies in non-defense items, not handouts superimposed on already generous subsidies."

Expect 2 Lease,  
Lend Act Units

The UP, April 14, says that informed Washington sources said Monday that Executive orders setting up the lease-lend civilian defense administrations may be signed by the President this week. The two new agencies will be part of the Office of Emergency Management, which already embraces the Office of Production Management, the National Defense Commission and the Office of Price Administration and Civilian Supply. Harry L. Hopkins is expected to head the lease-lend administration.

French Paper  
Urges Less  
Food To Nazis

From Vichy, April 14, a New York Times dispatch says that France's food situation, which has unquestionably worsened considerably in the past six weeks, was brought to public attention Monday night by an editorial in the newspaper Temps. It dealt with conditions under the double aspect of defective organization of distribution and of the duty that has developed upon the authorities, for the sake of the future of the French race, to resist requisitions exceeding the limits set down in the armistice.

Railroads Act  
To Gather Cars  
In Wheat Move

The New York Herald Tribune, April 15, says that a heavy return movement of Western-owned box cars by Eastern and Southern railroads is scheduled to start today in response to efforts of the Association of American Railroads to insure an adequate car supply for the movement of winter wheat. As a result of an order issued by the car service division of A.A.R., it is hoped to reduce the number of Western cars away from home by 25,000 in the next two months.

Cotton Exports  
Fall From  
Last March

The New York Times, April 15, says that exports of U.S. raw cotton in March amounted to 97,000 bales valued at \$5,813,000, compared with 69,000 bales valued at \$3,761,000 in February and 434,000 bales valued at \$25,719,000 in March, 1940.



Argentina Backs  
Management Meet

From Buenos Aires, April 14, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that plans for a Western Hemisphere congress on scientific management, which has been contemplated for New York some time next year, took definite form Monday as Argentine Government and business officials added their endorsement to those already received in Colombia, Peru and Chile. Maurice Holland, director of the National Research Council and the accompanying Latin-American tour, sponsored by the council, said that Latin-American interests are anxious to have the gathering this Fall, but that proper preparations for such a meeting cannot be made in less than a year.

Soybean Futures  
Sales Rocket

From Chicago, April 14, the AP says that construction of enlarged facilities for transactions in soybeans futures contracts has been made necessary in the Board of Trade by recent large scale business. Turnover in beans futures in March totaled 65,670,000 bushels, compared with 41,794,000 in February and only 9,440,000 bushels a year ago. Since April 1, daily sales have averaged about 4,000,000 bushels.

Mrs. Roosevelt To  
Attend REA Meet

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Paul H. Appleby, Under Secretary of Agriculture, and John E. Rankin, Congressman from Mississippi, will be the principal speakers Wednesday afternoon at the second day of a four-day conference of employees of the Rural Electrification Administration. Harry Slattery, Administrator of REA, will preside at the general sessions of the conference, which will be held at the Departmental Auditorium, Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets, N. W. At a general session of the conference Friday afternoon the speakers will be Grover Hill, Assistant Secretary, Department of Agriculture, M. L. Wilson, Director, Extension Service, Leland Olds, Chairman, Federal Power Commission, and Gifford Pinchot, formerly Chief Forester and formerly Governor of Pennsylvania. The conference will close Friday night with a banquet, marking REA's sixth birthday, at the Hotel Washington, with Secretary of Agriculture Wickard presiding. The speakers will be Congressman Rankin, Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska, and Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

All Rhode Island  
Get Stamp Plan

The USDA Monday announced the extension of the Food Stamp Plan to include Swift and Wilkin Counties, Minnesota; Pettis and Cape Girardeau Counties, Missouri; Ottawa and Stark Counties, Ohio; Douglas County, Kansas; Sequoyah County, Oklahoma; Nemaha County, Nebraska; and to the rest of the State of Rhode Island. The City of Providence is the only area in the State where the Plan is already in operation.



British Sweet  
Corn Seed To  
U.S. For Safety

Science News Letter, April 12, says that Dr. R. W. Singleton of the Connecticut Experiment Station, has asked a London plant breeder to send him small quantities of his inbred seed corn, so that the strains may be kept going until after the war. Sweet corn is a luxury crop in England, and there will be neither land nor time to spare for it this spring.

BAE On Fats And  
Oils Situation

Lard prices during the coming year probably will be strengthened by Government purchases under the recently announced program for support and stabilization of hog prices. Lard production so far this year has been considerably smaller than a year earlier, and is expected to continue at reduced levels until the spring of 1942. As a reflection of this situation, and of probable purchases of lard for export to Great Britain under the lend-lease legislation, prices of lard and competing fats and oils have advanced fairly sharply since late February. During the past 2 years, lard prices have been abnormally low in relation to prices of competing products. For the coming year, advances in lard prices may be more pronounced than in the case of such products. Other factors which will tend to strengthen prices of lard and other fats and oils during the next several months include: (1) A stronger consumer demand resulting from increased industrial activity, particularly in the second half of 1941; (2) higher ocean shipping costs for imported oilseeds and oils; and (3) possible restrictions in the volume of imports as a result of reduction in shipping space. Continued weakness in the effective foreign demand for fats and oils resulting from the blockade of much of western Europe, however, will be a restraining factor on prices in surplus-producing areas and in this country. (BAE)

East Central  
States Seen  
Facing Drought

The Washington Post, April 15, says that the Geological Survey reported Monday that a serious drought threatened to hit the East Central States unless dwindling surface and underground water supplies were replenished soon by rains. In a statement, the survey said that stream flow in this area and in northern New England was materially below normal, and that there was also a prospective water shortage for irrigation needs in parts of the northern intermountain region. Five representative streams in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Kentucky ranged from 10 to 22 percent of normal for March.

"Finger Printing"  
Peach Trees

American Fruit Grower, April, says that the development of an early bearing peach tree and an accurate system of identifying the numerous varieties of peach trees are the aims of two research projects in progress at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J....The studies are being directed by Prof. Maurice A. Blake and assistance in the work is being provided by the WPA. The experiments are described in an article "Finger Printing Peach Trees."

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXXI, No. 12

Section 1

April 16, 1941.

HOPKINS TO  
SUPERVISE LEASE-  
LEND PROGRAM

From Washington, April 15, a Baltimore Sun dispatch says that Harry L. Hopkins was chosen Tuesday by President Roosevelt to supervise the \$7,000,000,000 lease-lend program for aid of nations resisting the totalitarian axis. He was appointed because of his first hand knowledge of British military and economic needs which he gained during a visit to England last January as the President's personal representative.

SHOWDOWN NEARS  
ON FARM LOAN BILL

From Washington, April 15, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that a showdown in the House over the question of Congressional action to raise the price of some basic agricultural commodities by boosting the levels of commodity loans made by the Commodity Credit Corporation may come up in the House early next week. Proponents of the Fulmer Bill were disclosed Tuesday to be seeking action by the House leadership which will permit the bill to come up on the House floor at an early date. A provision has been inserted in the bill raising the level of loans for cotton, wheat, corn and tobacco to 75 percent of parity.

PRESIDENT EXPANDS  
LICENSE ON EXPORTS

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 16, says that President Roosevelt Tuesday issued two proclamations extending the export control system to a new list of commodities, including machinery, some vegetable fibers, caffeine and casein. His action came as these three previous proclamations went into effect: the addition of 51 commodities, mainly chemicals, fats and oils, to the licensing list; the requirement that technical information be licensed before export, and a reorganization of the control system to provide greater flexibility.

REPRINTS FROM 1940  
"AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS" NOW  
AVAILABLE

Many workers in the Department find it convenient to answer letters by sending a reprint or Separate from "Agricultural Statistics." The reprints from the 1940 edition of this 725-page book are now available. They are designated respectively Separates No. 40 to 49 inclusive, each Separate covering one chapter of the book. Separate No. 40 is a 4-page folder, containing the list of weights and measures.



British to Drop  
Weekly Reports  
On Ship Losses

From London, April 15, the New York Herald Tribune reports that following the precedent set in the World War the Admiralty announced today that henceforth British shipping losses would be reported every month, instead of every week.

Commodity Price  
Index Still Rises

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 16, says that "the wholesale commodity price index registered its fifth consecutive weekly advance last week, according to the National Fertilizer Association. This index in the week ended April 12 was 104.2, compared with 103.7 in the preceding week, 101.4 a month ago and 99.2 a year ago, based on the 1935-1939 average as 100. The index is now higher than at any time since November, 1937.

Electric Co.,  
Tries To Wreck  
REA Plans

The Potomac Edison Company was charged with deliberate and "vicious" attempt to frustrate plans of the Rural Electrification Administration for extension of its lines into Frederick and Carroll Counties, Md., at a hearing before the Public Service Commission yesterday, says the Baltimore Sun of April 16.

Truck Livestock  
Marketings Up

From Chicago, April 15, the AP says that trucks hauled 7,772,000 tons of meat animals to markets in 1940, according to the Corn Belt Farm Daily, livestock industry publication. This amounted to 63.7 percent of total livestock tonnage arriving in markets. Trucks hauled nearly 5,500,000 more head of stock last year than in 1939, recording the sharpest gain in recent years.

5-cent-an-hour  
Raise Urged For  
Textile Workers

An industry committee voted unanimously yesterday to recommend a 37½-cent-an-hour minimum wage for 440,000 workers in the cotton textile industry, says the Washington Post of April 16. The recommended minimum wage is 5 cents above the present minimum. Labor Department officials estimated 290,000 workers would receive a wage increase, if the recommendation is carried out.

Forest Fires  
Rage in Maryland,  
New Jersey

From Trenton, April 15, a New York Times dispatch says that forty-five forest fires, four of them serious, raged throughout New Jersey Tuesday, but were under control by 9 P.M. The Baltimore Sun, April 15, says that forest fires are ravaging Maryland at the rate of ten a day in the face of the "worst conditions we have had this year," according to State Forester F. W. Besley. Extremely low humidity and poor visibility are responsible for the great number of blazes, Mr. Besley says.



March Cotton  
Consumption Up

The AP says that the Census Bureau reported Tuesday that cotton consumed during March totaled 854,179 bales of lint and 119,029 bales of linters, compared with 793,626 and 106,937 during February and 627,194 and 88,226 during March last year. March consumption included 34,000 bales distributed by the Surplus Marketing Administration through various cotton mattress programs, compared with 29,000 bales in February and 16,000 bales in January.

All of Maine  
Under Food  
Stamp Plan

The USDA has announced the extension of the Food Stamp Plan to include Cass County, Illinois; Geauga and Lake Counties, Ohio; St. Croix, Price, Polk and Pepin Counties, Wisconsin; Willacy, Cameron, Coleman, Jones, Briscoe, Donley, Collingsworth, Gray, Wheeler, Howard, Baylor, Jefferson, Caldwell, Bastrop, Navarro, Falls, Coryell, Grayson, Denton, Kaufman, Johnson and Henderson Counties, Texas, and to the rest of the State of Maine.

Poultry and  
Egg Production

The March production of 4,611,000,000 eggs was the largest for the month since 1931. The Agricultural Marketing Service reports the number of layers on farms in March 3 percent smaller than in 1940, but a 4 percent higher rate of egg production per layer -- 14.96 eggs -- was more than an offsetting factor. The number of young chickens in farm flocks on April 1 shows a 24 percent increase compared with last year when hatchings were sharply decreased. A preliminary report from commercial hatcheries, however, indicates that 7 percent more eggs were set and 14 percent more chicks were hatched by commercial establishments in March this year than in March 1940. In February, 24 percent more eggs were set and 67 percent more chickens hatched than in February 1940. Prices received by farmers for eggs on March 15 were 6 percent higher than a year earlier, chicken prices were 12 percent higher, and turkey prices were 11 percent higher. Feed prices, on the other hand, were 4 percent lower. (AMS).

2 Forest Service  
Men To Get  
Heroism Medals

Medals for bravery while fighting forest fire will be awarded Wednesday night by the American Forest Fire Foundation to two members of the Forest Service organization, the Forest Service said Tuesday. The awards, one posthumous, will be made at the annual banquet of the American Forestry Association in convention at Los Angeles, California. Those who will receive the medals are Clarence B. Sutliff, assistant supervisor of the Bitterroot National Forest, Montana, for saving the life of Dick Johnson, pilot of an airplane which crashed while Sutliff was scouting the spread of a forest fire and Andrew D. Lindgren, foreman of a CCC camp on the Huron National Forest, Michigan, who lost his life May 8, 1937, while directing the escape of a CCC crew from onrushing flames. John M. Bush of Escanaba, Michigan, will receive the medal for Lindgren.



Plant AcidsStimulate TobaccoLeaf Growth

At the American Chemical Society Meeting in St. Louis, Dr. Carl G. Vinson, A. D. Hibbard and Dr. R. Rodney, of the University of Missouri, presented a paper which suggested that bigger and better tobacco leaves may eventually be produced by giving them the right kinds of sprays while they are growing. In a series of preliminary experiments, young Turkish tobacco plants were sprayed with solutions of maleic and succinic acids, which are weak acids commonly found in fruits and other fresh plant substances. These plants produced 70 percent greater growth in length than did similar plants from the same seed bed used as controls and left untreated. In another series of experiments, it was found that vitamin C content of plants grown with their roots in water could be substantially increased by feeding them small amounts of a soluble manganese to their fertilizer ration. (Science Service).

AMS DairyProduction Report

Production and disappearance of dairy products have continued outstandingly heavy. Milk production in March was about 3.6 percent above production in that month last year, and the increase in manufactured dairy products was about 7 percent. Production has probably continued heavy well into April, judging from the high production per cow on April 1, the high level of weekly butter production to April 10, and the remarkably mild weather during the first 2 weeks of April. Stocks of dairy products declined about the usual percentage during March and aggregate holdings on April 1 were average in comparison with current production. Conditions also favor heavy production for some months. The supply of feed grain on farms is slightly above the record holdings of a year ago. Hay reserves are also believed to be large. Prospects for crops and pastures are quite generally favorable. Prices of feed have been rising but high protein feeds are still relatively cheap and up to April 14 feed grains were only about up to prices at that time last year.

Iron Gets To Milk5 Minutes AfterCow Eats It

By experiments with radioactive iron, Dr. Lowell Erf, research fellow in the Radiation Laboratory of the University of California, has found that iron will appear in a cow's milk within five minutes after the animal is fed iron-containing food. These experiments upset the former theory that it took a considerable length of time for iron elements of food to be assimilated and taken up by the lactating cells. This speed of assimilation is credited to rapid enzymic action which was not heretofore suspected. (Science Service).

Machines ForGrass Silage

In Agricultural Engineering, April, H. E. Besley, of the New Jersey Experiment Station, and W. R. Humphries, of the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, USDA, write on "Machines Designed for Harvesting and Storing Grass Silage."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 13

Section 1

April 17, 1941.

## WICKARD OUTLINES DEFENSE FOOD NEEDS IN CHICAGO

From Chicago, April 16, a New York Times dispatch says that Secretary Wickard and a group of USDA aides disclosed to Corn Belt farm leaders Wednesday the large program which the U. S. has undertaken to feed Britain and the other democracies. Speaking before the State Extension Service officials and State AAA chairmen and committeemen, Mr. Wickard gave reasons why farmers must be induced to greatly increase the production of eggs, dairy products, pork and some vegetables. Because of the shortage of shipping space and transportation problems, the food sent to Britain must be in a concentrated form where possible, he said.

## NELSON SAYS COMMODITY PRICES MAY BE FIXED

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The Washington Star, April 16, says that Donald M. Nelson, defense purchasing director, said Wednesday that the nation's commodity price situation is in "rather critical shape." "Unless we can prevent general price spiraling," he said, "we may have to fix many maximum price schedules. I hope we can prevent a blanket order freezing prices on virtually all commodities." There is no reason for an accelerated increase in food prices at this time, he added.

## HOOVER OUTLINES FOOD PLAN

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From London, April 16, a New York Times dispatch says that Former President Herbert Hoover, in a letter to the London Times, appealed Wednesday to the British people for a fair hearing of his plan to feed "starving women, children and unemployed men in unoccupied democracies." Mr. Hoover's demands on Berlin were listed as: Cessation of all requisition of native food supplies; contribution of foodstuffs from German-controlled supplies in amounts equivalent to food already taken; imports through the blockade of soup kitchens and special food for children, and efficient neutral control.



Food Ships  
Leave For  
France Today

The New York Herald Tribune, April 17, says that a gift of 15,350 tons of flour and dried milk from American people to citizens of unoccupied France will begin the journey today for Marseilles aboard the two French steamers, Ile de Re and Leopold L.D. The ships will leave without their protective guns, and were both so heavily laden Wednesday that their plimsoll marks were submerged.

Wickard Urges  
More Eggs,  
Chickens

A nationwide drive to produce every possible egg from present laying flocks this spring and summer was launched Wednesday by Secretary Wickard. The effort is a part of the nation's determination to assure ample food supplies for the United States, Great Britain, and other nations resisting aggression, and should increase egg production for the whole country in the next 15 months by about 6 percent, or about 10 million cases of 30 dozen eggs each. The goal can be achieved, poultry specialists say, partly by ample feeding -- beginning immediately -- and partly by filling up the Nation's poultry houses to capacity with laying birds this fall. Feed supplies are plentiful, and prices moderate, and the Department of Agriculture has announced it will support long term egg prices at an average of about 22 cents (Chicago basis) until June, 1943, a figure which should make egg production profitable. Ample feeding means that egg production, which usually begins dropping in June, should remain at higher levels in the late summer months. Also, to fill poultry houses to capacity this fall and next spring with laying hens, the Department says an increase of around 15 percent in chicks raised over the number in 1940 is advisable. The hatchery industry is geared to take care of this increase. According to Department experts, supported prices should enable producers to go ahead with plans for feeding for maximum egg production and increasing the size of flocks.

Campbell Says  
Food Blockade  
To Be Continued

The New York Herald Tribune, April 17, says that Sir Gerald Campbell, British Minister at Washington, reiterated Wednesday night his government's intention of maintaining the food blockade of German-occupied territories at full strength and asserted that "message after message" has been received from Nazi-dominated lands "urging us not to send any relief, telling us that they can and will bear the blockade, and that they are in the fight, too."

Needed Research  
On Southern  
Farm Buildings

Buildings."

In Agricultural Engineering, April, W. V. Hukill, Senior agricultural engineer in the Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, writes on "Needed Research on Southern Farm



Argentine Paper  
Blasts U. S.  
Neighborliness

From Buenos Aires, April 16, a New York Times dispatch says that The Nacion, in its Wednesday issue, examined Argentina's situation in the light of the recent celebration of Pan-American Day, and concluded that there is still too much difference between the Pan-American ideal as expressed in words and as manifested in deeds. "We cannot conceive of good neighborliness," the paper said, "if the U.S. continues to condemn our meats on the grounds that they carry hoof-and-mouth disease. Nor do we accept absolute proscription of our livestock products for any reason or under any pretext."

FSCC Outbid  
In Chicago Cash  
Egg Market

From Chicago, April 16, the AP says that efforts of the FSCC to purchase eggs in the cash market of the Chicago mercantile exchange were unsuccessful Wednesday as the trade out-bid the Government agency. Making its first appearance in the exchange's cash markets since March 4, the Government agency bid  $22\frac{1}{2}$  cents a dozen for storage packed first eggs and  $22\frac{3}{4}$  cents for storage packed extras. The trade took offers at  $22\frac{3}{4}$  for storage packed firsts and 23 cents for extras, a gain of  $\frac{3}{4}$  cents over Tuesday's prices. Activity of the FSCC in the cash market had a bullish effect upon futures trading on the exchange. October futures soared 45 points to 24.15 in active trading.

Soybean Trade  
Displaces Corn  
In Chicago Pit

From Chicago, April 16, the AP says that, because of the record-breaking volume of soybean trading now going on in the Chicago market, the Board of Trade Wednesday transferred dealings in beans to the corn pit. Trading in corn futures will be done hereafter in the beans pit, which only recently was doubled in size. In its new quarters, the exchange's soybeans trade ranks second to that of wheat, displacing corn, which for years has been the No. 2 commodity on the trading floor from point of volume of transaction.

Duluth-Superior  
Referendum  
On Milk

A Federal marketing agreement program which would regulate the handling of milk in the Duluth-Superior (Minnesota and Wisconsin) marketing area will be placed before the industry for approval within the next 15 days, the Surplus Marketing Administration announced Wednesday. A referendum will be held among producers supplying milk to the Duluth-Superior marketing area on the issuance of an order which would make the terms of the proposed marketing agreement applicable to all handlers. The referendum will be conducted by E. M. Harmon, designated agent of the Secretary of Agriculture. Dates for the referendum will be announced locally. At the same time, the proposed marketing agreement will be submitted to handlers for their approval.



BAE Reports on  
Dairy Situation

The announcement by the USDA on April 3 of an expansion of the Ever-Normal Granary Program into a food program designed to assure ample supplies for the U.S., Great Britain, and other nations resisting aggression, is the important development in the dairy situation this month. According to the announcement the production of pork, dairy products, eggs and poultry will be stimulated through the support of prices over the period ending June 30, 1943 at levels remunerative to producers. Dairy production continues unusually high. Total milk production on April 1 was about 5 percent higher than a year earlier and the highest on record for that date. Total production of the principal manufactured dairy products has also been high. A marked increase in production is in prospect until the seasonal peak is reached in June. The outlook is for continued record production unless the weather is unfavorable. Prices of butter and cheese rose sharply from mid-March to the end of the month. Prices paid to producers for dairy products during the remainder of 1941 are expected to average considerably higher than in 1940, and probably the highest since 1937. (BAE)

Stamp Plan  
Extensions

The USDA announced Wednesday that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Anoka and Morrison, Counties, Minnesota; Langlade and Fond du Lac Counties, Wisconsin; and these eight Iowa counties: Grundy, Buchanan, Benton, Franklin, Hamilton, Humboldt, Story, and Tama. The Cotton Stamp Plan has been extended to Kern, Kings and Tulare Counties, California.

Poor-Land  
Vegetables High  
In Minerals

Professor Glen Wakeham, of the University of Colorado, reported to the division of agricultural and food chemistry division at the St. Louis meeting of the American Chemical Society that vegetables raised on poor soil, though scanty in quantity, had decidedly higher mineral content than similar vegetables raised on rich soil. Professor Wakeham planted peas and beans in rich irrigated land, and parts of the same lots of seed in poor, unirrigated land. Although the total yield from the rich land was three times as great, the poor-land crops had a decided advantage in essential mineral content. The Colorado chemist urged further research in this particular corner of the field of nutritional chemistry. (Science Service)

To Study Price  
Fixing In Peach  
Canning Industry

"In about three weeks, the Department of Justice Antitrust Division staff in San Francisco, investigating food price controls on the Pacific Coast, will begin feeding to a federal grand jury material collected in a study of all efforts (federal, state and private) to fix prices in the peach canning industry. Already, books and records of principal packers have been commandeered by the investigators." (Business Week, April 12)

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 14

Section 1 of Section April 18, 1941.

## JUSTICE BUREAU PLANS DRIVE ON FOOD PRICE RISE

From Washington, April 17, the UP says that the Justice Department is planning an attack on any artificial increases in the price of food.

Within three months the Department plans to prosecute forty major cases involving at least 1,500 defendants in the food industry. An official said the anti-trust division hopes to have nearly 150 attorneys working on the food drive by mid-summer. He added that all types of staple foods, canned fruits and vegetables, citrus fruits and meats have come within the scope of the investigation.

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## \$400,000,000 SLASH IN PARITY IN HOUSE

From Washington, April 17, a New York Times dispatch says that the House rejected Thursday the addition of \$400,000,000 for parity payments to growers of wheat, cotton, tobacco and rice

which the Senate added to the agriculture appropriation bill, raising its total to \$1,340,000,000. The matter will now be threshed out by a conference committee representing the two branches.

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## LATIN NATIONS ASK TARIFF PREFERENCE

From Rio de Janeiro, April 17, a New York Times dispatch says that Latin America's present enthusiasm for the role of supplier of materials

needed by the U. S. defense program would be doubled if she had any assurance that the present demand was anything but a wartime phenomenon. This is the privately expressed opinion of government and business officials in the half dozen countries visited by the National Research Council's current tour of industrial exploration in South America. Reciprocal favors will be accorded to U. S. products in the tariff regulations if a program can be worked out, according to Argentine government officials.

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## IMPROVED FREEZING PROCESS FOR FOODS ANNOUNCED

From Austin, Texas, April 17, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that Luis H. Bartlett, University of Texas engineer, has announced a perfected process for "quick-freezing"

food, cheaper, faster and more flexible than frosting methods now in use. The box-like machine measures five by five by eight feet and flash-freezes food by immersion in a special fluid medium. University patents are pending on both the process of freezing and the machine that does the work.

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Urges Vitamin C  
In Babies' Bottles

From Chicago, April 17, a New York Times dispatch says that, at the annual meeting of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, Dr. C. G. King, University of Pittsburgh, said that the fact that nearly three times as many men are being rejected for selective service because of bad teeth, than were rejected for the same reason in the 1917 draft, is traceable to the change, at the time the present generation of selectees was born, in the manner of feeding infants -- from breast to bottle. The substitution of cow's milk for mother's milk, said Mr. King, deprived the present generation of an adequate amount of vitamin C, vital to the development and growth of healthy teeth. He urged adding to baby's bottles about 30 to 50 milligrams of vitamin C daily.

Vichy To Compel  
Sales of Farms  
To Raise Yield

From Vichy, April 17, the AP says that, in a sweeping movement to increase agricultural production, the French Government set up Thursday commissions authorized to compel the sale or exchange of private farm lands. A preamble to the decree declared that much land in France was lying waste because it was parceled out in such a way that it could not be worked effectively. The Government indicated that, where necessary, it planned to lump untilled lands into complete new farms and offer them for sale with inducements of aid in erecting buildings and buying equipment. The commissions were empowered to compel private owners to sell or exchange their lands, and to take over holdings for resale should the owners be unable to reach agreements with purchasers.

Sugar Quota Rise  
Seen Imminent

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 18, says that the announcement by the USDA Thursday that preliminary sugar deliveries in March totaled 1,029,886 short tons, raw value, brought forth the immediate reaction in the sugar trade that a substantial increase will not be long in coming in estimated domestic sugar requirements for 1941. Only twice before have deliveries exceeded 1,000,000 tons; once in March, 1937, prior to reimposition of processing taxes, and again in September, 1939, following the outbreak of war.

Cottonseed Oil  
Prices Hit  
2-Year High

The AP, April 18, says that action in the various leading commodity markets was indecisive Thursday, reflecting general puzzlement in trading sources over the Federal price-control movement, which took on deeper significance with the freezing of first quarter steel quotations. Cottonseed oil futures continued an independent upsurge, reaching new tops for two years or more at closing gains of .17 to .21 of a cent a pound. At Chicago the wheat market, overloaded with bearish war news, high-lighted by the fierce attack on London, dipped  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{7}{8}$  of a cent a bushel.



Says Food Will  
Help Beat Axis

The Washington Post, April 18, says that Dr. Karl Evang, surgeon general of public health in Norway before and immediately following the German invasion, told a World Fellowship luncheon that the question of feeding the occupied countries in Europe is as much strategic as humanitarian. The people of Norway and of the other democracies of Europe regarded as "conquered" are still giving united resistance to the Germans, said Dr. Evang, and they need support from America in the form of food supplies. A wholesale plan for feeding Europe is impracticable, he asserted, saying that each country's problem must be met individually.

USDA Announces  
1941 Parity  
Payment Rates

Rates of parity payments to be made to growers who plant within their 1941 acreage allotments of cotton, wheat, corn, rice, and tobacco were announced Thursday by the USDA. The payments will be based on the normal yield of each producer's acreage allotment at the following rates: Cotton, 1.38 cents per pound; wheat, 10 cents per bushel; corn, 5 cents per bushel; rice, 20 cents per hundredweight; flue-cured tobacco, 0.6 cents per pound; fire-cured tobacco, 0.2 cents per pound; cigar filler and cigar binder (not including types 41 and 45), 0.7 cents per pound. It is estimated that the 1941 parity payment fund will be divided among the five major crops as follows: Cotton, \$88,300,000; wheat, \$57,300,000; corn, \$47,100,000; rice, \$2,500,000; flue-cured tobacco, \$3,700,000; fire-cured tobacco, \$100,000; cigar filler and cigar binder tobacco, \$600,000. The formula provided in the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 is used in making this allocation. Also allocated out of the fund is \$12,400,000 for administrative expense and reserve.

Program Seeks  
Increase In  
Canning Vegetables

A program to expand the production of tomatoes for canning by 50 percent to meet probable demands for canned tomatoes under the Lend-Lease Act, and for distribution by the American Red Cross as well as for school lunch, relief and other purposes, was announced Thursday by Secretary Wickard. The need for immediate action to secure the necessary acreage to produce an extra 15,000,000 cases of canned tomatoes was emphasized, as planting must be made during the next few weeks in order to insure the required supply. Much smaller quantities of peas, corn, and snap beans may also be purchased from time to time, but no advance purchases at this time are contemplated. Present prospects indicate that the increase sought in canned vegetables will be sufficient to meet anticipated needs up to June 30, 1942. To meet current requirements, the FSCC will request bids from canners for offers for comparatively small amounts.



Budwood Shipment  
Reaches Haiti

The largest consignment to date of budwood of superior rubber trees developed in the plantations of Malaya and the Dutch East Indies has arrived safely in Haiti, after shipment from the Philippines where the stock has been propagated since 1934, R. J. Seibert has reported to the USDA. Mr. Seibert was a member of the party last to return of the four expeditions sent out by the Department to survey rubber planting prospects in the Americas. Three other members of this group, O. D. Hargis, Hans G. Sorensen, and Dr. R. C. Lorenz, returned to Washington last week. Reports from the four survey parties, it is expected, will provide the basis for the specific agreements under which the United States and the governments of the South and Central American governments are cooperating to rehabilitate and revive the rubber industry of the Western Hemisphere.

Housing  
Requirements In  
Curing Tobacco

In Agricultural Engineering, April, J. M. Carr, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, writes on "Housing Requirements for Curing Tobacco." Mr. Carr says that only the potential quality of tobacco is developed in the field. Final value is entirely dependent upon the manner in which it is handled after it is harvested. The article emphasizes the importance of minimizing the fire hazard in flue curing.

Aroma Extracted  
From Tobacco  
By Scientists

Dr. William D. Turner and Gabriel F. Goldstein, of Columbia University, told the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society in St. Louis that they were developing a new method for processing tobacco. One of the steps in the treatment consists in the extraction of the aromatic substances from tobacco with alcohol. These substances, which give certain tobaccos their choice properties, are not affected by the treatment, and can be transferred to other tobaccos in which they are lacking. This will make possible the salvage of costly aromas from tobaccos that would otherwise have to be discarded for other reasons. It is even possible to achieve the effect of a blend by treating one kind of leaf with several kinds of aroma extracts, the Columbia men reported. Decolorization of the extract is accomplished by passing the solution through a fine-pored carbon mass, on which the dark resins are absorbed. (Science Service)

Judgement Aids  
In Irrigation

In Agricultural Engineering, April, F. E. Staebner, of the Bureau of Plant Industry, writes on "Aids to Judgement in Irrigation." Included is a map showing the irrigation needs of the Eastern humid United States.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 15

Section 1

April 21, 1941.

SECRETARY SAYS  
FOOD LACK  
MAY BALK HITLER

On Saturday night, Secretary Wickard spoke over the Columbia Broadcasting System from the studios of WCSC, Charleston, South Carolina. The Secretary discussed the new food program announced by the USDA on April 3; and said that American farmers may play a decisive role in defeat of the Axis powers. "Hitler is in a cage," he said. "If he is kept there, the Balkan victories will only hasten his eventual collapse, a collapse that will be largely due to the lack of food."

FOREST FIRES  
SWEEP SEVEN  
EASTERN STATES

The Washington Times-Herald, April 21, that, fanned throughout the day by gusty winds, an unprecedented number of forest and brush fires raged over thousands of acres of farm and timberlands in Maryland and Virginia Sunday, leveling farm buildings and causing damage expected to run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. The New York Times says that the states of New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, West Virginia and Pennsylvania had each reported serious fires, New Jersey State Forest Service having reported that 45 fires raged throughout the State Sunday.

HAITI RUBBER  
PLANTING FOR  
U.S. PLANNED

From Miami, April 20, the AP says that Elie Lescot, President-elect of Haiti, said Sunday that vast rubber plantings would be undertaken on the island under an agreement with the U. S. Government. "Very encouraging" experimental plantings have been made, he said. "Every part of Haiti is capable of growing this crop," he added. Mr. Lescot and a party arrived in Miami by special Pan American clipper en route to Washington, where he will confer with officials.

WORLD PER CAPITA  
USE OF SUGAR  
30.5 POUNDS

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 21, says that a survey made by Lamborn and Company shows world per capita consumption of sugar during the year ended August 31, 1940, averaged 30.5 pounds, as against 30.6 pounds in the previous year. The peak per capita consumption was recorded in 1936-37, when the figure was 32.3 pounds. The total consumption at that time amounted to 30,549,000 long tons, raw value, the all-time high, as against 29,519,000 tons in 1940.



Produce Men  
Cited On  
Price Fixing

From Washington, April 20, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the Federal Trade Commission, charging price fixing and other restraint of trade practices in the interstate shipment of broadleaf spinach, has filed a complaint against Pacific Fruit and Produce Company, and four other Walla Walla, Washington, shippers, four Chicago jobbers, and a Minneapolis broker operating through a Chicago branch. The complaint alleges a combination and conspiracy of all the respondents in fixing the resale prices at which fresh broadleaf spinach purchased by them from the respondent shippers through the respondent broker firm should be sold in the Chicago market.

Guatemala Urges  
More Food Crops

From Guatemala, April 18, a New York Times dispatch says that President Jorge Ubico has instructed the Agriculture Department to take steps to increase food production in Guatemala, presumably because of the possibility of a war blockade on imports. Farmers were admonished to plant as extensively as possible corn, wheat, beans and root crops. These are expected to be grown in amounts not only for local consumption, but also to provide a surplus.

More Aid To  
Britain Predicted  
By W. L. Batt

From Washington, April 18, the UP says that William L. Batt, deputy director of defense production, in an address to the defense morale conference of the United Service Organizations, said "When we say we're going to provide Britain with aid for defense and for its hitting power, we mean the expenditure of many billions of dollars. I don't hesitate to say that the \$7,000,000,000 will be but a small part of the aid we will eventually furnish Britain."

Mounting Prices  
Assailed In Italy

From Rome, April 18, the AP says that rising Italian prices were sharply attacked Friday by Giovanni Preziosi, editor of Vita Italiana, a monthly political review. Recalling a decree ordering merchandise prices pegged at the levels of July 20, 1940, Signor Preziosi said that not only should prices not have increased since then, but should have been reduced. He predicted further increases "since there exists no merchandise that had not seen a rise since July 20--and what a rise!"

Hoover Again  
Urges Food  
For Europe

From New York, April 20, a New York Herald Tribune dispatch says that Former President Hoover, who has pleaded unsuccessfully with the British Government for relaxation of the blockade to permit sending food to small European nations, renewed that plea Sunday night in a Nation-wide radio talk. Reminding Great Britain that the U.S. has recently passed the Lend-Lease Act--"the greatest gift ever made in the history of mankind from one nation to another"--Hoover asserted, "when the lives of millions of children and women are at stake, eternal right and humanity demand that humane America raise a voice in their behalf."



BAE On Livestock  
Situation

In the case of beef cattle, the number on farms is now being built up to the extent that several years from now market supplies of cattle may be unusually large. Consumer demand for meats at the end of 3 or 4 years may be much less favorable than in 1941. The number of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt on April 1 was 16 percent larger this year than last. The development of the early lamb crop continued favorable during March. Livestock prices changed relatively little during March, but hog prices advanced sharply in early April following the announcement that prices would be supported by Government purchases of pork and lard. Early lambs from California and Arizona began to reach midwestern markets in early April and sold at prices around 50 cents higher than the first shipments last spring. (BAE)

Farmers Use More  
Co-op Credit

Farmers and stockmen, who borrowed nearly 25 percent more money during the first quarter of 1941 than during the same period last year, are making even greater use of their production credit associations than in past years, according to C. R. Arnold, Production Credit Commissioner in the FCA. Loans during the first three months this year totaled 103 million dollars compared with 83 million last year. Farmers in all of the 12 Farm Credit districts borrowed more money from their credit cooperatives during the first quarter of the year, but the largest increase was in the Houston district where farmers and ranchers borrowed 11 million dollars this year compared to approximately 6 million last year.

BAE Studies  
Food Spending

Estimates of the distribution of consumer expenditures for foods, made Friday by the USDA, show that in 1940 consumers spent about 14.8 billion dollars for food products produced by U. S. farmers. Total payments to farmers for producing these foods amounted to 6.2 billion dollars. The national marketing bill was 8.6 billion dollars. The estimates, the first of a series of articles on marketing problems and needs at country assembly points, in transportation, processing, storage, wholesaling and retail distribution, appears in the April issue of "The Agricultural Situation." The national marketing bill was about 3.6 billion dollars for retailing, 1.2 billion for wholesale distribution, 0.8 billion for transportation, and 3.0 billion for processing and local assembly.

Crop Insurance  
Corporation  
Settles Losses

Two Illinois farmers have been paid the first indemnities under the 1941 Federal Crop Insurance program, the USDA announced today. Both claims, due to winterkill, were for complete crop losses. Ralph Kennedy, Chandlerville, Ill., was paid 349 bushels of wheat under his all-risk crop insurance contract covering 63 acres. Kennedy previously had paid a 22-bushel premium for protection against losses due to all unavoidable hazards. The other loss claim was paid Maude Adkins, also of Chandlerville. Her insured acreage amounted to 63 acres, and the indemnity totaled 233 bushels. Her premium payment was 14 bushels of wheat.



Improved Demand  
Raises Farm  
Prospects

Consumer demand for farm products will continue to improve in the remainder of 1941 under the stimulus of rising employment and consumer incomes brought about by the defense program, according to BAE in "The Demand & Price Situation." At the same time, exports of agricultural products also will be increased as a result of purchasing for British needs under the lend-lease program. The effect of increases in prices and incomes received by farmers as a result of these changes in demand conditions will be offset to some extent by higher production costs. Estimates now indicate that the net contribution of the Federal Government to the national buying power in 1941 may be as much as 10 billion dollars, compared with 4 billion in 1940.

Sugar Allotments  
To Remain Same

The Sugar Division of the USDA has announced that 1941 domestic sugar beet and sugarcane production allotments previously established would remain unchanged. It was explained that in view of developments in the international situation and in the sugar market during recent months officials had been considering the advisability of increasing 1941 production allotments, but that because of the availability of large reserve stocks in some of the domestic areas, as well as in nearby foreign areas, it had been decided to maintain the allotments at their present level.

Weekly Cotton  
Market Review

Cotton prices moved to new high levels for the current season to date but later weakened and closed about unchanged from a week earlier, reports the AMS. Spot cotton markets were moderately active. Reported repossession of loan cotton were about 153,000 bales for the six days ended April 15. Export buying was negligible and domestic mill buying slackened. During the first half of April domestic mills apparently operated at a rate equal to or possibly higher than the record high for March. The volume of sales of cloth and yarn was relatively small but prices were firm. The weather was mostly favorable for plowing and planting. The 10-market average of 11.08 for Middling 15/16 on Friday, April 18, was 2 points lower than on Thursday, April 10 (Friday being a holiday). The high point of 11.22 cents reached on Monday was a new high for the season to date.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA has announced that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Jefferson, Atchison, Brown, Johnson, Clay, Franklin, and Coffey Counties, Kansas; Becker, Clay, and Traverse Counties, Minnesota; Boone County, Missouri, Shannon, Jackson, Ziebach, Dewey, Todd, Buffalo, Harding, and Mellette Counties, South Dakota; Portage and Trempealeau Counties, Wisconsin, Sioux County, North Dakota; and to the city of Peabody and the towns of Braintree, Natick and Watertown, Mass.

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 16

Section 1

April 22, 1941

FOREST FIRES  
NOW RAGE IN  
ELEVEN STATES

The New York Times, April 22, says that new and continuing forest fires raged in parched sections of eleven Eastern States Monday. The situation last night remained most critical in Central New Jersey, where at least fifty thousand acres had been affected. The Weather Bureau offered no hope of rain today in the metropolitan area, however, and forestry officials agreed that so long as the dry spell continued the problem might grow even more serious.

172 SHIPLOADS  
OF FOOD ASKED  
BY HENRY-HAYE

The New York Herald Tribune, April 22, says that Gaston Henry-Haye, French Ambassador to the U.S., said Monday that 172 shiploads of American foodstuffs were needed to save the people of unoccupied France from threatened famine. M. Henry-Haye renewed his plea that America send more food, making assurances that its distribution under American auspices would guarantee that it did not fall into German hands. He added that the cargoes of the two ships, now enroute to France, would furnish bread for only four and a half days.

U.S. TO RESUME  
TOBACCO EXPORT  
SALES TO BRITISH

The New York Herald Tribune, April 22, says that arrangements have been completed for the resumption of tobacco exports to England under the lease-lend bill, according to A. H. Maxwell, British Tobacco Comptroller, who has been in this country since the first of last month consulting with Government officials on the subject. Mr. Maxwell said Monday that he had received every cooperation from the USDA and other Government agencies in his efforts to bolster the dwindling supply of Virginia and Carolina flue-cured tobacco in England, and that the amount to be moved across the ocean this summer now rested entirely with the Ministry of Shipping in London.

DAIRY FARMERS  
CALLED TO CONSIDER  
THEIR "PLIGHT"

From Washington, April 21, the AP says that the executive committee of the National Cooperative Milk Producers Federation sent out a call Monday for an emergency meeting of dairy farmers at Chicago May 1 and 2 to consider the "serious plight" of the producers as a result of the defense program.



April 22, 1941

Southern France  
Lacks Meat, Cheese,  
Milk, Butter

From Toulouse, France, April 20 (Delayed) Ralph Heinzen, of the UP, says that wheat has reached the hunger belt of southern France from the German zone, but millions of persons still are suffering from hunger and malnutrition. The limited German grain supplies were the result of an exchange agreement and were not a gift, and the general food situation is worse than it was when Mr. Heinzen surveyed the Toulouse region a month ago. The menace of a bread famine has been removed for the next two months, but there still is an almost complete shortage of meat, no cheese, little milk, no butter and no olive oil. The general ration of more than 10,000,000 people, according to French food experts, is almost totally lacking in fats.

Farm Labor  
Shortage In  
Maryland

The Baltimore Sun, April 22, says that Maryland's shortage of farm labor has reached an acute stage and has created a problem which State and county officials and farm organizations are trying to solve as quickly as possible. Dr. Samuel Henry Devalt, head of the department of agricultural economics at the University of Maryland, said Monday that the situation is becoming worse with the passing of each month. Dr. Devalt reports that, on January 1, there was a shortage of 4,000 in farm labor. This increased to 11,000 in April. He estimated that, at this rate, the shortage would reach between 15,000 and 16,000 by July 1.

Form For Release  
of Loan Cotton  
Revised

The USDA announced Monday that a change is being made in the instructions, and in Commodity Credit Corporation Cotton Form R, for the release of loan cotton to permit one transfer of cotton loan "equities" by the person who makes the purchase from the producer. Previously, the form could not be transferred. The change is effective immediately. Officials of the Corporation said the purpose of the amendment to the cotton loan program was to facilitate the purchase of loan cotton from producers by local cotton buyers and its resale to cotton merchants who sell cotton to mills in the U.S. and abroad.

Secretary Wickard  
Writes on  
Conservation

In Land Policy Review, April, Secretary Wickard writes on "Conservation, A Lasting Emergency." He points out that in the great new tasks before us we should remember a great continuing task, the obligation of conserving our soil and other resources.



Acts To Stabilize  
Farm Tool Prices

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 22, says that price Administrator Leon Henderson Monday asked makers of farm machinery not to advance prices at this time, pointing to the fact that steel prices had recently been stabilized by the O.P.A. Voluntary co-operation was asked by Mr. Henderson "in the hope that other steps may be avoided." In a letter last week to several hundred manufacturers of farm implements, Mr. Henderson stressed the wide range of finished products into which steel enters as a raw material and importance of maintaining stable prices particularly on farm machinery and equipment because of their importance as a factor in farm-production costs.

Canned Food  
Market Firm

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 22, says that the canned food market continues quite firm, and, as the spring advances attention is turning more and more to future packs. Because of unfavorable weather, reports from the Pacific Coast are alarming. This applies especially to apricots, cling peaches, spinach, and asparagus. Meanwhile, spots are moving out regularly, movement of canned tomatoes to April 1 running better than 2,000,000 cases ahead of last year, totaling 20,174,704 cases this year, to 17,810,000 cases last year.

Wheat Less Active  
As Prices Decline

From Chicago, April 21, a New York Times dispatch says that operations by professional traders dominated the action of the wheat market Monday. Easiness in securities resulted in bearish sentiment predominating in the early trading and prices receded about one cent a bushel from Saturday's finish before fairly aggressive buying developed. Late in the session covering by shorts became effective and a moderate rally followed with the close on the Chicago Board of Trade at net losses of  $1/8$  to  $1/2$  cent, the former on the May. Lack of information as to the proposed loan on the 1941 wheat crop is causing many traders to keep close to shore, and the outside interest in the market has decreased materially.

St. Louis Gets  
School Milk  
Program

The Surplus Marketing Administration announced Monday approval of a program under which approximately 8,600 school children in St. Louis, Missouri, will be eligible to receive a glass of milk (half-pint) daily for the remainder of the current school year. Nearly 300,000 children attending schools located in low-income neighborhoods of New York and Chicago are receiving a glass of milk daily under similar programs now in operation.



Mohler Reports On  
Sleeping Sickness  
Of Horses In 1940

An improved method of immunizing horses against encephalomyelitis, also known as sleeping sickness of horses, by intradermic vaccination is described in a report just issued by Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry. Former methods gave rise to some undesirable reactions and in some cases, it was reported, caused deaths, but injection of the vaccine into the skin has yet to reveal unfavorable results. The report estimates that about 1,000,000 animals received vaccination last year. Favorable results of the Bureau's studies on intradermic vaccination led to the wide adoption of this improved method during the latter part of 1940. The report, designated as "Infectious Equine Encephalomyelitis in the United States in 1940," is based on information supplied cooperatively to the Bureau by State livestock sanitary officials, State experiment stations, State extension veterinarians, county agents, and Bureau inspectors.

Canada's Fruit  
Industry Increases

From Ottawa, April 21, the CP says that the value of production in major branches of Canada's fruit-growing industry, exclusive of apples, was \$7,415,000 in 1940, an increase of \$472,000 from the \$6,943,000 reported in 1939, according to the Agriculture Department's annual crop summary based on Dominion Bureau of Statistics figures.

Machine Saves  
Infertile Eggs

The San Diego Poultry Journal, April 10, says that Dr. George F. Stewart, poultry specialist at Iowa State College, has developed a new "egg-saver" machine that makes possible the removal of infertile eggs from their hatches at 15 to 20 hours of incubation and their sale at top quality prices to consumers. Three distinct savings for the operator are claimed through use of the machine: Infertile eggs are recovered and sold, space is saved because eggs that will not hatch are not kept, and there is the possibility of getting an earlier check on hatching-flock fertility. Tests of the machine show that the total cost of the pre-incubation and candling is less than half of the return obtained from the sale of the recovered infertile eggs.

Sieker Appointed  
To Forest  
Service Position

Appointment of John H. Sieker to the position of chief of the division of recreation and lands in the Forest Service was announced today. Sieker has been assistant chief of the division for nearly two years and acting chief since the death of Robert "Bob" Marshall in November, 1939.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXXI, No. 17

Section 1

April 23, 1941.

## MILL MEN OPPOSE CERTIFICATE PLAN ON FARM CROPS

The Herald-Tribune, April 23, says that representatives of cotton textile mills told The House Agriculture Committee Tuesday that the income certificate plan to raise farm income would cost consumers \$500,000,000 annually and offset any gain to producers. They urged that any additions to farm income be paid directly from the Federal Treasury.

## NUTRITION PARLEY CALLED FOR MAY 26

The Washington Times-Herald, April 23, says that President Roosevelt Tuesday called a national conference on nutrition, to be held in Washington May 26 to May 28, to study means of applying scientific knowledge of foods on a national scale. The conference will be held under the direction of Federal Security Administrator McNutt. Mr. Roosevelt connected the conference directly with the national defense program, explaining the importance of eliminating all malnutritional diseases among defense workers, the armed forces and American families generally.

## U. S. FARM POPULATION ALMOST STATIONARY

From Washington, April 22, the AP says that the Census Bureau estimated Tuesday that 30,475,206 persons lived on farms when the count was taken a year ago. This represented an increase of only 29,856, or 0.1 per cent, since 1930, while the population as a whole increased 8,894,229, or 7.2 per cent. Thus the farm population, in relation to the total, dropped 1.7 points to 23.1 per cent.

## BACK FIRES BLAMED IN WOODS BLAZES

The Baltimore Sun, April 23, says that, according to reports of fire chiefs who fought the fires and Walter J. Quick, assistant State Forester improperly started and uncontrolled back fires were responsible for the fires which swept the Maryland countryside Sunday and Monday.



Cuba's Sugar  
Export to U.S.  
Sharply Higher

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 23, says that Cuban exports of sugar from January 1 to April 19 totaled 854,673 long tons of raw value, as compared with 789,866 tons during the same period last year, an increase of 64,807 tons, or 8.2 percent, according to advices from Havana to Lamborn & Co. Shipments to the United States Amounted to 817,189 tons, as against 631,004 tons in the same period in 1940.

Observer Finds  
Finland Starving

From New York, April 22, the AP says that Charles Grey, American Red Cross representative returned Tuesday from a fact-finding expedition in Finland, and said that the food situation there is so desperate that "food is news." He said working people in Finland were getting only 70 percent of the calories they needed, and that they were obliged to keep what was left of their cattle by feeding them thin strips of cellulose -- "wood, in other words, treated with chemicals to supply some of the needed calories."

BAE On Poultry  
And Egg Situation

Efforts are now being made by the USDA to stimulate the production of eggs and chickens over a period ending June 30, 1943. The increase in production is being encouraged to provide for export requirements under the provisions of the lend-lease program while maintaining about normal levels of per capita consumption in the United States. The expansion will be stimulated primarily by supporting egg prices. By purchasing eggs in the open market the Government will support egg prices at a level such that the Chicago wholesale price for the period from now until June 30, 1943 will average about 22 cents per dozen. In determining the approximate monthly prices consideration will be given to normal seasonal variation, differentials as to grade and shipping distances when purchases are made at country points, and to relative prices of feed. In addition to the uses in the lend-lease program, supplies of eggs acquired through Department purchases will be available for direct distribution in this country through State relief agencies to needy families and for free school lunches; for release on the market in case of unwarranted speculative price increases; and to meet requests from the Red Cross for shipment to war refugee areas.

Danish  
Production  
Drops Sharply

From Copenhagen (via Berlin) the AP says: "Winter and war have brought to the Danish people an increase in petty crime and a marked decrease in the production of milk, butter, eggs, and in the supply of pigs and coal on hand. The kingdom's apple export, however, is expected to be tripled this year.



British To Limit  
Navicerts For  
Switzerland

From Washington, April 22, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the British Embassy Tuesday announced new restrictions on the issuing of navicerts for shipments from the U.S. to Switzerland. They were ordered by the Ministry of Economic Warfare and will apply to export of numerous bulk commodities. Henceforward, American exports must effect their trade on the specified list of commodities through Swiss authorities in Switzerland. Navicert applications at British consulates in the U.S. on these items will no longer be accepted.

Repossessions Of  
Loan Cotton Large

From New Orleans, April 22, a New York Journal of Commerce disptach says that trading in the spot cotton in New Orleans and adjacent points was considerably larger in volume during the past week, with loan repossessions continuing to furnish the bulk of offerings coming on the market. Daily sales were practically double those of corresponding days of a year ago. Domestic mills were showing as keen an interest in supplies of raw material as they were a week earlier, and inquiries were thus unusually good for this time of the year.

Argentine Export  
Group Formed

From Buenos Aires, April 22, the UP says that nine American business men, including R.D. Spradling, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Argentina, and one Argentinian, Esteban Carbone, president of the Automobile Importers' Association, Tuesday put the finishing touches on a plan for a \$250,000 corporation to promote Argentine exports to the U.S. The corporation is to be a non-profit organization, and the plan has now been presented to the Argentine Government banking authority for approval. The corporation was authorized last year by Presidential decree at a time when a serious shortage of dollar exchange virtually halted U.S. imports here.

Tells Why Fewer  
Potatoes Eaten

From Augusta, Me., April 23, the AP reports that, according to Edgar W. Russ, Maine potatoe grower and member of the Governor's executive council, the per capital consumption of potatoes has dropped, partly because American people do not work enough to develop the appetites they once boasted. A second reason for a drop from 4.2 to 2.8 bushels in per capita consumption, Mr. Russ believes, is improved transportation, which brings fresh fruits and vegetables to the doors of all America, lessening the need for potatoes.



Caterer To Feed  
London In Case  
Of Emergency

From London, April 22, the AP says that the job of feeding the entire London area in event of a complete breakdown of other facilities has been turned over by the Food Ministry to J. Lyons and Company, one of the world's largest caterers. Cards will be issued to give the needy a standard meal for about 11 cents.

Scot Would Use  
Sea Plankton  
For Food

The New York Times, April 23, says that Sir John Graham Kerr (Scottish Universities) has asked Major Gwilym Lloyd George, Food Ministry Parliamentary Secretary, to appoint a committee to investigate the practicability of large-scale collection of plankton from the sea by mechanical separators for food purposes. Sir John states that large areas of sea off the west coast of Scotland are richly charged with Plankton and that small-scale experiments show that this substance can be readily converted into nourishing food.

Halifax Thanks  
Red Cross For  
'Invaluable' Aid

From Washington, April 22, the AP says that Viscount Halifax, British Ambassador, said Tuesday that when history records the "attempts made by Nazi tyranny to plunge the world into darkness" it will say that "one of the brightest pages in these fateful times was written by the American Red Cross in the work which it is doing for stricken Europe." His remarks were addressed to the banquet of the American Red Cross' largest national convention.

Wheat Recedes  
On War News  
Home Reports

From Chicago, April 22, the AP says that continued pessimistic war news plus weakness of stocks and surrounding commodities were too much of a handicap for the wheat futures market Tuesday and prices lost almost a cent after a higher opening. A warning that the Government would resist unwarranted lard price increases, failure of expected flour buying for the Red Cross to materialize and lack of progress in farm legislation also were depressing factors. Wheat finished 5/8 to 7/8 lower than the previous close.

Weather Report

According to the weekly weather and crop bulletin, additional frequent rainfall in the Lake region and from the Mississippi Valley westward to the Rocky Mountains further delayed field operations and spring seeding is still inactive in most places. Also, excessive rains in parts of the Southwest, especially in central and southern Missouri, western Arkansas, and eastern Oklahoma, did much damage by washing fields; soil erosion in Oklahoma was the heaviest in years.

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Section 1

April 24, 1941.

## HOUSE RULE SOUGHT ON FARM PARITY AID

From Washington, April 23, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that it was indicated Wednesday that a special rule giving right of way in the House to the Fulmer bill providing mandatory loans of 75 percent of parity to growers of cotton, corn, wheat and tobacco may be granted by the House Rules Committee later in the week. As the House Agricultural Committee continued hearings on farm problems ranking members of the committee Wednesday appealed to the Rules Committee in the bill's behalf.

## BEEF STAMP PLAN IN U. S. ASKED FOR ARGENTINE MEAT

From Boston, The New York Times says, comes a proposal to allocate duties on Argentine beef to special blue stamps earmarked to permit unemployed and relief clients to buy Argentine beef in the U. S. The proposal was made Wednesday night by Carlos Garcia-Mata of the Argentine Meat Producers Corporation in a lecture at Harvard University. He said his proposal would make beef a cheap food for the unemployed, without endangering the sales of domestic producers.

## BRAZIL SETS STANDARD FOR EXPORT PRODUCE

From Rio de Janeiro, April 23, a New York Times dispatch says that officials of the Federal Rural Economy Service told members of the National Research Council group Wednesday that agricultural products, before being exported from Brazil in the future, must meet minimum quality standards or be turned back at the port of shipment. In a round of government bureaus the members of the group viewed a wide range of products of Brazil for export to the U.S. in future and asked particularly about uniform quality.

## MINISTER SAYS EIRE NEEDS SHIPS FOR FOOD AND ARMS

The New York Herald Tribune, April 24, says that Frank Aiken, Eire's Minister for Co-ordination of Defense Measures, said Wednesday that the principal problem facing the government of Eirie is to obtain sufficient ships to carry food, principally wheat and armaments to Ireland. Since October, more than 30,000 tons of miscellaneous cargo destined for Irish ports has accumulated on New York docks because of inadequate shipping, he said.



April 24, 1941.

Cotton Futures  
Price Control  
Opposed

From Memphis, April 23, a New York Herald Tribune dispatch says that, at a meeting, called by C. W. Kitchen of the AMS, a group of cotton men decided that action on the plan of the New York Cotton Exchange to institute weighted price averages on the designated markets in the settlement of future contracts instead of the present system of straight averages must wait additional hearings and further consideration. The meeting was attended by approximately 75 representatives of shippers, manufacturers, the exchanges and the cooperatives.

France To  
Kill Cattle

From Vichy, April 23, the AP reports that Pierre Caziot, Minister of Agriculture, has said that 1,200,000 cattle in France would have to be slaughtered prematurely because of lack of fodder. This will be necessary, he said, because of a shortage of 4,410,000 tons of feed due to last season's poor harvest, ravages of war and blockade restrictions. Caziot added however that the "hideous specter of famine appears less threatening" due to recent measures by which an estimated 2,500,000 additional acres over last years total would be cultivated this season.

10,000 Tons Of  
Rubber To U.S.

From Medan, Sumatra, April 23, the AP says that the Netherlands East Indies Wednesday sanctioned a special shipment of 10,000 tons consigned to the U. S. National Defense Commission for reserve stocks. It was understood there that the U. S. is acquiring a backlog of 150,000 tons of rubber as a precaution against possible severance of communications should war spread to the Pacific. Wednesday's authorization was the first "installment" on the reserve.

Says 2/3 Of U.S.  
Suffers From  
Malnutrition

From Boston, April 23, a New York Times dispatch says that Prof. Russell M. Wilder of the Mayo Foundation told a meeting of the American College of Physicians Wednesday that two-thirds of the nation, including large cross-sections of all economic groups, are suffering from serious malnutrition. Prof. Wilder said that the lack was not due to the inability to buy food, but to the fact that the present food habits of the American people, developed during the past sixty years, have resulted in a constantly decreasing deficiency of vitamins, minerals and proteins.

Food Stamp  
Extensions

The USDA announced Wednesday that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Hamilton County, Nebraska, and Bennett, Washabaugh, and Washington Counties, South Dakota.







Farm Real Estate  
Values Rose  
Last Year

A slight rise in the national average of farm real estate values during the past year was reported Wednesday by the USDA. The preliminary index of average value per acre of farm real estate was 86 as of March 1, 1941, as compared with 85 on the same date a year earlier, and with 84 in 1939. The period 1912-14 equals 100. The low point of the Department's series during the last 20 years was 73 in the year 1933. Values increased about 16 percent during the next 4 years but have fluctuated little since 1937. The national average now is approximately 18 percent above the 1933 low point.

REA Launches  
Refrigerator  
Financing Plan

The REA Wednesday announced a program of financing electric refrigerator purchases by farm families getting current from REA-financed power lines, and a specially-designed "REA Co-op Model" refrigerator which will be distributed by REA-financed systems under the new financing plan. Loans for refrigerator purchases will be made usually to the cooperative or power district which built and operates the power system. The systems will use these funds to finance refrigerator purchases by their individual members. The individual buyers will pay simple interest at a rate no higher than 6 per cent, and repayment may be spread over five years. The plan follows the procedure already established by REA systems for wiring, plumbing, and brooder financing, on which losses have been considerably less than 1/2 of 1 per cent.

New York  
Milk Hearing  
Scheduled

The USDA announced Wednesday that a public hearing on amendments which may be proposed to Order No. 27, regulating the handling of milk in the New York metropolitan milk marketing area, will be held during the latter half of May, 1941, in Albany, New York, and New York City. Formal hearing notice giving the exact dates for the hearing will be issued during the week of May 4-10.

Chain Grocery  
Sales At Peak

The New York Times, April 24, says that the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce announced Wednesday that chain grocery store sales in March established a new record. The rise of 3 percent during the month was considerably more than seasonal, the bureau stated, adding that March sales were 12 percent larger than six months earlier and 14 percent above March, 1940. In commenting on the rise, the bureau said that price advances have not been a great factor in accounting for the high sales level.



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April 25, 1941.

## WICKARD WARNS OF NATION'S DANGER

Secretary Wickard in an NBC broadcast from the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York, at 12:30 P.M., Thursday on "The Farmer's Stake In a Democratic World," before a conference that had met to consider how northeastern agriculture can fit into the plan to increase production of certain agricultural products for Great Britain under the lease-lend policy and to assure ample supplies at home, said that, if Britain is defeated, the theatre of war will be transferred from Europe to this country.

## FARMERS AND LABOR CLASH ON FOOD HAULING BILL

Farmers and representatives of Labor expressed opinions Thursday at a hearing held by Governor O'Connor (Md.) at Annapolis on the bill which would make it a misdemeanor for anyone to interfere with the production or transportation of perishable food within the State, says the Baltimore Sun of April 25. The labor men were unanimous in their assertions that if the Governor did not veto the bill it would prevent organized labor from exercising its rights. The farmers were just as positive in their statements that the bill, if made law, would not harm anyone except "bandits and anarchists."

## FARMERS INSTRUCTED TO INCREASE BEANS AND TOMATOES

Instructions to implement plans of Secretary Wickard to increase vegetable production were received by a county agent in Maryland April 24, says the Baltimore Sun of April 25. "If Dorchester County farmers have contracts with canners to absorb the increased production they may expand their acreages of tomatoes and snap beans without incurring AAA penalties," the Sun dispatch from Cambridge says.

## DEFENSE HITS RUBBER ON FARM IMPLEMENTS

The Government and consuming industries are studying methods of conserving rubber because of record consumption of crude rubber in the United States and the slow pace of arrivals from the Far East producing centers, the N.Y. Journal of Commerce of April 25 says. Almost all of the tire producing companies are experiencing some shortage in certain lines, principally farm tractor and truck tires, due to heavy defense requirements of trucks and tractors.



U.S. Food To  
Conquered  
Questioned

The New York Herald Tribune, April 25, says that shipments of food from the U. S. to countries conquered by Germany would be equivalent to giving the food to the common enemy, which has plundered food stores of the occupied nations according to "An Open Letter to the Women of America," signed by twenty-nine prominent women and released by Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, former American Minister to Norway.

Wisconsin Packers  
To Increase Output

A special story to the New York Journal of Commerce, from Milwaukee, April 24, says that, encouraged by the probable demand for more food supplies because of increasing industrial activity in this country and export to Britain, a number of the State's large canning companies have announced intentions to increase acreages of several canning crops this year.

Wheat Retreat  
Comes To Halt

From Chicago, April 24, the AP says the wheat market's recent retreat came to an abrupt halt Thursday as prices rallied about a cent a bushel. With the pit well liquidated as a result of a 4 to 6 cent decline since April 5, selling was on a small scale and was more than offset by modest buying orders that came from previous short sellers or traders who were reinstating lines. Brokers said events in Greece apparently had been discounted during the past three weeks and, with stocks stronger, the lowest wheat prices in almost a month proved attractive to some interest.

Wholesale  
Commodities Up

From Washington, April 24, the AP says that the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Thursday an increase of 0.1 per cent in wholesale commodity prices in the week ended April 19, due largely to continued advances for fats, oils and foodstuffs and higher prices for crude rubber. The bureau's wholesale commodity price index now stands at 83 per cent of the 1926 average, as compared with 78.5 per cent a year ago.

Warns Importers  
On Shipping Losses

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 25 reports that Wayne C. Taylor Under-Secretary of Commerce, in an address to the twentieth annual luncheon meeting of the National Council of American Importers, Inc., in New York, Thursday said: "You know that each ship which is sunk or badly damaged hastens the day when nothing can be carried except the bare essentials for our defense.....You know that with all our vaunted resources we are not self sufficient, and that it will require many months to produce even moderate quantities of substitutes."



Italy Takes Over  
Agriculture  
In Yugoslavia

The New York Herald Tribune in a story from Rome, April 24, says the organization of Italy's food supplies will be supplemented immediately by Fascist direction of agriculture in the occupied territories of Dalmatia and Slovenia. Guiseppe Tassinari, Minister of Agriculture and food dictator, told a senatorial commission Thursday, that already the Fascist drive for greater farm production had assured Italy of enough grain this year so that bread would not have to be rationed and so that "agricultural exports worth several billion lire can be sent to Germany in return for war materials."

Cabbage Good  
For Teeth

From Chicago, April 24, the UP says that three Ohio State University scientists, R. C. Burrell, H. D. Brown and Virginia R. Ebright have reported that fresh cabbage ranks high in the list of foods and vegetables containing vitamin C, which helps prevent tooth decay, bone softening and muscle weakening.

AMS Liquid  
Egg Production  
Report

The production of liquid eggs by egg breaking plants during March was one of the largest of record for that month, the Agricultural Marketing Service reports. Estimated at 43,138,000 pounds, the March production was 30 percent larger than that of March 1940. Shell egg supplies were plentiful in March, and egg breakers for the most part were very active in bidding for breaking stock. With supplies of eggs expected to be as large as those of last year, and in view of increased domestic demand and the probability of supplying Great Britain with egg products, egg breaking operations are expected to continue at a high rate.

No Danger Seen  
From Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>  
Bread, Flour

Science News Letter, April 19, says that Dr. Helen Mitchell, director of nutrition, Federal Security Agency, and Dr. Henry Sebrell, of the U. S. Public Health Service, give assurance that people who eat the new enriched bread and flour containing additional amounts of the morale vitamin B<sub>1</sub> (thiamin), are in no danger of toxic effects such as Dr. Clarence A. Mills, of the University of Cincinnati, reports resulted from vitamin overdosage in Panama. Conference between Doctor Sebrell and Doctor Mills revealed that the amount of the vitamin which caused the toxic effects observed in Panama was eight or nine times the amount the average person will get from eating the new enriched flour or bread. Doctor Mills said that his findings, he believes, apply only to persons in the tropics who take very large medicinal doses of the vitamin, in addition to that obtained from food, and for very long periods of time.



Food Stamp  
Extensions

South Dakota.

The USDA announced Thursday that the Food Stamp Plan will be extended to Richland County, Wisconsin, and Haakon, Jones, and Lyman Counties,

Blue Stamp Food  
Buying Up  
In February

Blue surplus food stamps added more than \$7,200,000 worth of farm products in February to the diets of 3,109,000 members of families eligible to receive public assistance, the Surplus Marketing Administration announced Thursday in its monthly report on the Food Stamp Plan. During February families taking part in the Food Stamp Plan used blue stamps -- which increased their expenditures for agricultural products approximately 50 percent -- as follows: 14 percent for butter; 12 percent for eggs; 32 percent for pork products; 16 percent for flour and other cereals; 15 percent for fruit; and 11 percent for vegetables.

Says Exports  
Depend On Imports

"It is hard for many people to understand that the problem of foreign trade is to decide on how much we are willing to buy and import from other countries. The only permanent basis for exports is imports -- we must import a dollar's worth of goods for every dollar's worth we export. We can dodge that for awhile, as we have, by taking notes or gold instead of goods, but that is unsatisfactory and temporary. In the end, the countries that are willing to buy are the ones that will do the selling." (Cliff Gregory in the Wisconsin Agriculturist and Farmer, April 19)

Uruguay  
Government  
Aids Farmers

"As a result of two short wheat harvests and a forecast that the 1940-41 harvest will fall below domestic requirements, the government of Uruguay has passed legislation to aid farmers and prevent an increase in prices." (Agriculture in the Americas, April)

All Germans To  
Wear Uniforms

From Berlin, April 22, the UP says that, beginning May 1, only standardized working clothes will be sold in Germany so that the Government can take advantage of savings effected by mass production. Men may buy only coveralls, plus an apron, if desired, while to women will be sold a light, knee-length white jacket.



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Section 1

April 28, 1941.

SAYS FARM PAYMENT  
RISE OPPOSED  
BY ROOSEVELT

From Washington, April 27, a New York Herald Tribune dispatch says that authoritative government circles disclosed Sunday night Administration pressure to prevent boosts in agricultural and other non-defense appropriations while calling on the people for drastically increased tax contributions to the defense efforts. As the House Ways and Means Committee prepared to open its \$3,600,000,000 tax bill hearings to spokesmen for groups that will be vitally affected by the projected levies, it was learned that the White House had passed the word to House leaders to stand firm against about \$450,000,000 of additions by the Senate to the politically popular agriculture appropriation bill.

HENDERSON SAYS  
U.S. WILL SEEK TO  
INCREASE SUPPLIES

The Washington Post, April 28, says that Leon Henderson, administrator of price and civilian supply, declared Sunday night that his office will place greater emphasis on increasing the supply of goods as means of averting inflation and, when this move falls short, price ceilings would be established. In an exposition of his program before the American Forum of the Air, a nation-wide broadcast, he said that, thus far, defense spending has been carried out "with but a small increase in price level," mainly because the supply of civilian goods has kept in step with the increased demand created by the defense jobs and wages.

FRANCE'S FEED  
TACK MAKES HERDS  
IRREPLACEABLE

The New York Times reports in a story from Vichy, April 27, that data on the country's food supplies recently made known by the Ministry of Agriculture indicate that livestock has been sharply reduced because of the tight fodder situation. Available cattle no longer are sufficient to provide the quantity of meat that is needed, and it is impossible at the moment to reconstitute herds because the country is short of livestock feed by 400,000 tons, which represents what is necessary to keep 1,200,000 head of large cattle.



April 28, 1941.

Says Farm  
Program Is  
A "Stop-Gap"

The New York Journal of Commerce, April 28, quotes C. T. Revere, of Laird, Bissell and Meeds, as saying: "No matter what the choice, whether increased parity payments or high loans or even if the certificate plan wriggles into the scheme, any farm program devised at this session of Congress can be only an evasive stop-gap -- a hodgepodge nostrum to palliate an 'emergency' created by politics. As a fundamental solution, it will be about as effective as a mustard plaster to cure cancer. When it comes to developing a permanent agricultural policy, the myth of 'parity price' should be exploded."

Maryland Farm  
Labor Shortage  
To Be Discussed

From Frederick, Maryland, April 27, the AP says that the problem of coping with the shortage of farm labor in Maryland will be discussed today (April 28) at a meeting of agricultural leaders, NYA, WPA and employment officials. Ryland N. Dempster, State Director of the NYA, said he would present a plan whereby youths employed on NYA projects might be available for farm work.

Exports To Japan  
Continue Decline

From Washington, April 27, a New York Journal of Commerce dispatch says that the Department of Commerce reports that exports from the U. S. to Japan continued downward during February, although the decline was less drastic than in previous months. Total shipments were valued at \$11,108,000, compared with \$11,588,000 in January and \$15,399,000 in February, 1940. Exports for the first two months of the year, however, declined by nearly 50 percent, to a value of only \$22,696,000 against \$45,106,000 in the same period of 1940. Shipments of raw cotton alone fell by \$13,000,000 dropping to a value of slightly over \$1,100,000.

Wheat Depressed  
By Delay On Loan

From Chicago, April 27, a New York Times dispatch says that failure of Congress to take action on the bills designed to give farmers a high loan rate on the 1941 crop, unfavorable reports regarding the war in Greece and a better outlook for the Winter-wheat crop, depressed wheat prices last week to the lowest level in about a month. Because of the relatively small open interest in wheat futures, the market passed quickly from an over-bought to an over-sold condition, and a strong rally came late in the week to lift the May position well above the closing price of the preceding week. The near-by future went to a premium of 2-3/4 cents a bushel over the July contract at one time, against 1 1/2 cents over the previous week.



War Goods Output . . . A wireless to the New York Times from Berlin,  
At Record In Reich April 27, reports that on the eve of and during  
the Balkan campaign, the Reich's production of  
war material reached a new peak in the present war, according to  
statements of the National Socialist leaders and reports in the  
German economic press. In the present phase of the German war  
economy skilled labor is generally considered a greater bottleneck  
than the supply of raw materials.

Foreign Cotton The New York Journal of Commerce, April 28,  
Exports Fair says that, although cotton exports from the U.S.  
are the poorest since the Civil War -- exports  
of cotton from some other producing nations, such as India, the  
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and some minor countries are proving unusually  
good, considering wartime conditions with their cutting off of many  
outlets and their shipping difficulties. The Cotton Exchange Service  
reports that India will end the season with the largest domestic  
carry-over on record.

New Forage From State College, Pennsylvania, April 27,  
Grass Developed a NANA dispatch says that a new blue grass which  
In Pennsylvania promises green pastures for much of the North-  
eastern U. S. and Southern Canada until late  
Autumn has been developed at the U. S. pasture laboratory. It is a  
cross between Kentucky and Canada blue grass, which constitute the  
chief forage grasses of North America east of the Mississippi and  
north of South Carolina.

Budd Says Rail- From Washington, April 27, the UP says  
Roads Ready For that Ralph Budd, Defense Transportation Commis-  
Record Freight sioner, said Sunday that the largest traffic  
increase ever experienced by the railroads, a  
result of the multibillion-dollar armament program, was being  
promptly and satisfactorily handled.

BAE Reports On The prospective carry-over of dried prunes  
Fruit Situation and dried apricots into the new marketing season  
will be much larger than usual, but the carry-  
over of raisins will be below normal. It is estimated that 92,200  
tons of dried prunes, 17,000 tons of raisins, and 5,100 tons of dried  
apricots available for regular trade channels will be carried over  
into the 1941-42 marketing season. Production of early strawberries  
is indicated to total 2.5 million crates compared with 2 million  
last year. The major portion of this production will be marketed  
from the middle of April to the middle of May. Production of second  
early strawberries, which are normally marketed during May, is

(continued next page)



(continued from page 3)

estimated to total 4.3 million crates compared with 3.1 million in 1940. Sales of apples in domestic markets in March were about 700,000 bushels larger than in the corresponding month last year. Because of improved consumer purchasing power, prices of apples in general were higher in March this year than last. There will be 2 million more bushels of apples to be marketed during the remainder of the season than there were in the same period last year. (BAE)

Ravaged Belgrade  
In Need Of Food

From Budapest, April 27, the AP says that travelers from Belgrade, bomb-ravaged capital of Yugoslavia, report<sup>ed</sup> the food situation there critical. The health of the population, it is reported, is seriously threatened by insanitary conditions, polluted water and shortage of food.

Farm Foreclosures  
Decline 41  
Percent In 1940

Farm foreclosures in 1940 showed a decline of 41 percent from the previous year, the USDA said Saturday. The total of 20,950, estimated by the Farm Credit Administration, is the smallest number of foreclosures in any year in the 7 years for which it has records. Of this number, 7,836 were foreclosed by individual mortgage holders, 3,190 by the Federal land banks, and 3,187 by commercial banks. Insurance company foreclosures were 2,576, and Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation foreclosures 2,211. Miscellaneous foreclosures numbered 1,950. During the fourth quarter of the year, foreclosures declined to the lowest quarterly level since 1934, and a 24 percent decline, from the third quarter, in foreclosures by the Federal land banks and the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation more than compensated for a 7 percent increase in foreclosures by lenders other than the Farm Credit Administration.

BAE Reports On  
Wheat Situation

The domestic wheat supply in 1941-42 is still placed at about 1,200 million bushels. If the winter wheat crop turns out to be about 616 million bushels as indicated on the basis of April 1 conditions, and if spring wheat acreage should be about as indicated by prospective plantings reports and yields per acre should be about average, the new crop would total about 800 million bushels. The carry-over is now expected to total about 390 million bushels. The total in 1940-41 was 1,099 million bushels, consisting of a crop of 817 million bushels and a July 1, 1940 carry-over of 282 million bushels. On the basis of supplies of 1,200 million bushels, and prospects that domestic disappearance will be about 675 million bushels, the quantity available for export and shipments in 1941-42, or for carry-over into the 1942-43 season, would be about 525 million bushels. Exports and shipments may not be greatly different from those in 1940-41, which are expected to total 30-35 million bushels. (BAE)

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